

**PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS,  
O N  
VENEREAL COMPLAINTS,**

Or, a plain, easy, safe, and certain

**METHOD OF CURE.**

**Without endangering the CONSTITUTION with  
MERCURY.**

An efficacious Mode of CURING GLEETS, Seminal or Venereal; and every other MALADY of the Urinary Passage; with a new Remedy, confirmed by long Practice and Experience.

**TO WHICH ARE ADDED,  
SELECT CASES,**

Confirming the Success and restorative Power of the Medicine recommended, in weak, relaxed, and broken Constitutions, warranted by the most respectable Characters.

**A L S O**

Plain RULES how to distinguish Venereal Symptoms from those often mistaken for such by the Patient.

By **Mr. NEALE, SURGEON,**  
Late of his Majesty's Fifth Regiment of Infantry, and Surgeon  
in London.

Experiendo didici,  
Experimentis cognovi.

Ita prorsus existimo—in quam sententiam quum pedibus instat,  
coeteri tribuni militum nihil contradicere

LIV. V. IX.

**The SECOND EDITION.**

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## INTRODUCTION.

**T**HE venereal disease, which, according to historians of the most undoubted credit, is a native of some of the American islands, especially *Hispaniola*, was brought into Spain near the end of the fifteenth century, and thence carried into Naples, during the war between Ferdinand of Aragon, and the French, by some Spanish troops, who had contracted it in the aforesaid island; for these and the French soldiers having had different times communication with the same women, according as the same towns alternately fell into the hands of the two contending parties, this filthy disease first

A

spread

spread itself over the two armies, thence made its way into Italy, and has since infected most part of the inhabitable world; and I very well remember, that a certain English merchant, who had resided many years in *Muscovy*, assured me, that the venereal disease was hardly known in that country before the reign of the late Czar, *Peter the Great*, because till that time, the traffic carried on by the Muscovites did not require much communication, or dealing with foreigners; but after that Emperor had taken the resolution of visiting other parts of Europe, and had sent many of his subjects abroad to learn trades and manufactures, those carried back with them the dire effects of their amours into their native country, which raged there with the greater severity, as inflammations and ulcers are the more difficult to be cured in cold climates. Hence in process of time, the mutual intercourse of different nations became more frequent by wars, trade, and other causes, this contagious malady at length was spread far and wide. No distemper in medical history has appeared with such  
a variety



a variety of symptoms, from the earliest accounts of it to the present time. Little mention was formerly made of the gonorrhœa, or clap, now usually the first and most frequent symptom attending the infection, and other venereal maladies which attack mankind, and in treating of which I beg leave to offer these few pages to the public, founded on long practice and experience. But if in the early ages of this distemper, mankind were not troubled with this more recent complaint, the patients were certainly much worse off, when blindness, and obstinate inflammation of the eyes, foul stains, and blotches of the skin, pains, and rottenness of the bones, violent head-achs, and falling off of the hair, were among the first of the terrible symptoms brought on in consequence of this almost universal disease; *these*, now, however, but very rarely happen from the beginning, since the appearance of the clap.

Whilst the newly imported venom was quickly diffused all over Europe, the most rational surgeons took this malady under their most serious consideration, and in

consequence of the improvements now made in the method of its cure, there is a remarkable mitigation of all the symptoms; and the venereal disease at present, even the most confirmed kind, is of little or no consequence, provided the sufferer be cautious to put himself under the care of an experienced surgeon, of abilities and integrity, who makes it his chief study to exert himself towards re-establishing the health of his patient, devoid of any other consideration.

The application of mercurial ointment by friction, is said to have been first made use of by a surgeon at *Montpellier*; but I cannot learn that the same practitioner gave mercury internally. When this remedy was first discovered, it was exhibited in such quantities, with close confinement, restriction of regimen, and the patients rolled up in flannels, for several months together; that though the disease might be conquered, two-thirds of the unfortunate sufferers generally died afterwards of *pocky consumptions*; and this, I am sorry to say, is still too much the fashion



fashion ; hence we may readily account for the number of consumptive and emaciated figures to be seen every day in the streets of our metropolis.

I have for these many years almost *liberated* my patients, in the worst of *poxes*, and I find that *fresh air*, and a little *exercise*, instead of doing any hurt, conduces *surprizingly* towards forwarding the cure. The medicine I make use of is of the *gentle alterative* kind, and never endangers their catching cold.

When the pox is hereditary transmitted, the degree of virulence with which the child will be infected, must be extremely different, when we consider the following circumstances ; children begot by *parents actually poxed*, should have this disease in the highest degree of infection, as not only the very principles of life, but those of nutrition also, are entirely *contaminated* ; if the parents have not acquired this disease till some time after the conception, the child will be still less infected, and I have seen some instances  
where

where children have been born under such circumstances *undiseased* ; the ease of effecting a cure in those different cases, will depend on the degree of virulence.

When this malady is acquired by *coition*, there are many circumstances which contribute to men and women's receiving the infection in an high degree of virulence ; this may be particularly observed in young people, who contract the disease in their first essays ; the impetuosity and warmth of their passion, with the absorbent state of the parts of generation, makes them extremely liable to the malignity of the disorder ; and more so, if the party who communicates it has a virulent running, shankers, ulcers, &c. in the state of inflammation ; this gives to the virus a superior degree of activity. In such cases, the malady soon becomes developed, with every degree of virulence, and soon makes a quick progress. But it is not so with old veterans in amours, or in those that are of frigid constitutions ; we often find such escape, when the female is *actually diseased* ; in this I am perfectly well convinced, from the many instances that have fallen within  
my



my notice, of men and women's *cohabiting* together, where the latter was evidently infected, and the former, notwithstanding frequent connection, continued free from every symptom of the venereal disease. Hence, from repeated experience, it appears, that there are some particular habits of body, and dispositions in the parts of generation, which, under the same circumstances, are more readily infected than others.

The advocates for exciting a salivation in the cure of poxes, think that a copious spitting is *essentially necessary*; saying, it critically depurates and expels the venereal poison from the mass of blood; but when such opinions are brought to the test of experience, it will be found that they are egregiously mistaken; few constitutions will bear, with impunity, to be under the influence of mercury for two or three months together; nor can we in general, without imminent danger of debilitating the texture of the vessels, breaking down the healthy *crasis* of the blood, introduce it in such quantity as some gentlemen so familiarly speak of, as necessary  
to

to effect a cure; and I am convinced, from repeated experience, that when the system is overcharged with mercury, it often proves an *unsurmountable obstacle* to the healing of venereal ulcers. By persisting in a violent course of mercurials, many patients have lost their lives, or had their constitutions irreparably impaired; and we frequently find when mercury is left off,\* and the patient has recovered his flesh and strength those sores heal of themselves with but little surgical attention.

As I am well convinced of the many dangerous consequences proceeding from giving mercury imprudently to patients, shall lay hold of this opportunity of recommending to my readers, in the *strongest terms*, upon no account whatsoever to suffer themselves to be loaded with mercury; to cause the least discharge of saliva by the mouth, as the worst species of poxes are to be cured by a more gentle, easy, mild, and expeditious method, without doing the least detriment to the constitution.

\* Vide Case VIII. of Capt. Mathew.

*Street*  
*Lepphi* London, Jan. 9, 1785.





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## Practical Observations, &c.

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### S E C T I O N I.

**T**H E disease, which makes the subject of the following tract, is one in which mankind are on many accounts much interested, very few of either sex, rank, or condition of life, being exempt from it; the rich, the poor, the lazy, and the laborious, are equally liable to it; and from its being improperly treated, it produces certain inconveniences to all who are afflicted. Obstructions in the urinary passage are not unfrequently the consequence, as sometimes to render the life of the patient miserable, and put it

to the hazard, obliging him ever after to have recourse to the bougie, to prevent the callosities formed in the *urinary canal*, from closing up the passage, by which the emission of both the urine and seed would be prevented; which might at first have been guarded against, if the clap, or the disease of the urinary passage, with which the sufferer was afflicted previous to his obstruction, had been properly treated; or, in other words, if a proper application had been made to the urinary canal, when it was in a state of inflammation, proceeding from clappy matter, all the evil consequences might have been avoided.

Let it be considered, that most complaints of the urinary passage proceed from ill-managed claps, when the unfortunate patient gets into the hands of the ignorant, who make him swallow a quantity of mercury, &c. which might, with as much propriety, be given to a patient, who, with a good habit of body, had a scratch of a pin, or some other sharp instrument, upon his hand, or finger, so as to cause inflammation, pain, &c.  
a poultice



a poultice applied will be found to be the best remedy, and will soon perform a cure without the help of any other medicine. If such an application could be made to the inside of the urinary passage, I am well assured, it would cure a clap with as much speed and success as the other.

A gonorrhœa, or clap, is a local disease, confined to the urinary passage only; it is that species of venereal, where the blood and juices are not affected; the glands of the urinary passage become inflamed, by the virus lodging on them, and exciting them, by irritation, to a greater secretion of mucus, which, from the inflammation they are affected with, becomes purulent; hence I am inclined to think, that the virulent running of a clap, is nothing more than an increased secretion of the mucus, which is naturally secreted by the glands of the urethra.

On dissecting those that died actually clapped, the disease appeared to me, to consist in an abrasion of the natural mucus of the *urethra*, the whole length of which

seemed more or less inflamed, red, *and highly excoriated*, the lacunæ of the mucus glands enlarged, from their being inflamed, and slightly ulcerated,\* After this discovery, I began to turn my thoughts towards making experiments on the different preparations thrown up into the part affected, with a view to act immediately on the inflamed urinary passage, having no longer any doubt of the disease being local. I was well convinced, that if an injection could be discovered, possessed of a quality to remove this inflammation, the cure would be soon performed; I had every opportunity for this purpose, having seldom less than between fifty and sixty men clapped, and I accordingly put my intention into execution.

Every kind of mercurial injection had been tried, to discover which had the most

\* This I particularly observed on the dissection of two men of the 16th regiment of light dragoons, in the month of January, 1777, at Brunswick, in the Jerseys, North America; one was a corporal, the other private; the latter was shot on a patrolling party by the enemy, and had been under my care about a week; the former was killed by a fall from his horse, on the fourth day after he applied to me.



most favourable effect; the common one, prepared of calomel and mucilage of gum arabic, seems to have the preference; but this is far from answering the purpose we wish, for in subjects where the inflammation runs high, calomel thrown up will certainly increase it, irritating the excoriated parts, and causing the heat of urine to be intolerable.

I turned my thoughts towards the vegetable kingdom, in hopes to find a *preparation superior*, which I luckily hit upon; and its effects upon the inflamed and diseased passage were so speedy, as astonished both me and the patients.\* At this time I had several whose claps were so so inflammatory, as to occasion them, from the excruciating pain, to disturb their comrades, particularly when passing of urine; and, on using this injection about twenty-four hours, they were relieved from their torment; and continuing to use it frequently, for the space of three days, they were perfectly well; all the

\* This is the Plantain Water prepared by Distillation.

the medicine that was administered inwardly, was an infusion of fenna and cream of tartar, to keep their bowels free. Finding the success of my injection, I soon changed my mode of practice, which before had indeed been entirely erroneous to a fault, though I will venture to say, it was the method in general made use of by the leading men of the profession.

I now saw the absurdity, and great impropriety, of giving mercury in ever so small quantity, in the gonorrhœa, which was, and I am afraid is still, too much the practice in the present day ; and there cannot be stronger proofs of this, than the number of gleans, and variety of complaints of the urinary passage, which I have met with in this metropolis, since my retirement from the army, and commencement of private practice.

Strong draftick purges are highly improper in every complaint of the urinary passage, as well as the disorder occasioned by them in the bowels ; they are destructive to the tone of the canal and glands  
of



of the urethra, causing *irritation*, and not unfrequently a great debility ever after ; by the use of such medicines, together with mercury, it is not difficult to account for the obstinate gleans, and other maladies of the urinary passage, which every now and then attack mankind, and require nice judgment to conquer.

It is astonishing, that the unfortunate would suffer themselves to be so severely punished, when by a simple application to the part affected, and the bowels kept gently free, by whatever the patient himself pleases, he obtains a sound and speedy cure in a few days at farthest ; this time is meant in the worst species of clap. I am happy to inform the public, that I have discovered such a remedy, and it is perfectly innocent in quality, prepared from the Plantain Root, proving highly friendly to the constitution, and I pledge myself to the world for its certainty and efficacy.

We need not be surprised at such numbers being afflicted with gleans, and obstructions

structions in the passage, when it is considered the mode that was made use of to cure their claps. Let the reader observe, there never was a gleet, that has not been more or less preceded by a clap; and according to the means made use of to cure it, will the glands in the urinary passage be affected; or, in other words, the sufferer will be more or less troubled with a gleet, or weakness, and will be more or less liable to fungus, or callosities forming in the canal. There would be little occasion for bougies, was this disease treated properly at its beginning; and the state of the passage of urine attended to.

Upon considering the old mode of practice, handed down to us by some of the most respectable authors of the profession, it is not much to be wondered at so few surgeons differing from those learned men, who carried every thing before them in their day. Our English Hypocrates, the great Sydenham, as well as Wiseman, the first surgeon of his time, lays it down



as a rule, that as the venereal venom is of a very inflammatory nature, the principal intention in its cure should be evacuation. In a clap, he says, recourse must be had to strong drastic purges, which ought to be persisted in for a long time ; the first fourteen days of the disease, he purged his patients every day, then every second day, and towards the latter end twice a week ; and should the cure go on but slowly, he accounts a mercurial vomit to be given extremely effectual ; when his patients rejected purgatives by the mouth, he ordered clysters ; and he closes the cure with balsam of Mecca, or turpentine.

They thought injections did much more mischief than good, hence it is no wonder that so many fell victims to this preposterous mode of treatment, few constitutions being able to endure it, and it is very evident that every constitution must be more or less injured by it.

I have been often led to imagine, that Sydenham, when treating of the clap, wrote more from theory than practice ;

for otherwise, the many ill-consequences that must attend such a mode of practice would have soon convinced this sagacious physician of his error, and the ingenious candour that so strongly characterises this great man, would have induced him, for the good of mankind, publicly to confess it.

The mode of cure laid down by Wiseman and Sydenham, were for a long time, with no material variation, followed throughout Europe by practitioners, till the time that the celebrated Astruc gave to the world a most complete treatise of the venereal disease.

This ingenious author, considering a clap as an inflammatory complaint, orders copious bleeding immediately on its first appearance, large quantities of emulsions, &c. to be drank to obtund the acrimony of the urine, and a cooling injection to be thrown into the passage; after the heat and pain are abated, he overthrows every thing he was doing before, by ordering his patients strong purges of scammony, jalap, and calomel.

Hence



Hence it must be obvious to every understanding, that throwing such strong medicines into the stomach, can do no manner of good to a disease situated in the urinary canal, but it most certainly must do a great deal of mischief, by disordering the bowels, and relaxing the excretory glands, running the sufferer into the hazard of having obstinate gleans, and obstructions of the urethra.

By the use of the preparation which I have already recommended, every person afflicted with either gleet or clap, may cure themselves with expedition and safety.

It is an unfortunate circumstance for the progress of physic in general, and really not singular in regard to this disease, that practitioners who have adopted a mode of treatment, that may in the course of their practice prove generally successful, become so prejudiced in its favour as to give it the preference to the exclusion of all others.

At the same time, I am not ignorant what opposition all new discoveries must meet with, from many prevalent propensities in human nature. The minds of men grown old in any way of thinking, are like heavy bodies on the surface of the earth, which by long lying have sunk into the ground, and formed to themselves a bed, from which they cannot be easily removed, even with very great strength; there is a kind of *vis inertiae* of soul as well as body. Novelty, though it be true and convincing to them, may yet be displeasing; because it puts them in mind of their having been wrong all their lives, and there are other reasons which weigh and effect the same purpose.

It is well known, that very important discoveries, like rich mines, have lain long unattended to, slighted, or misunderstood, and yet have been afterwards universally adopted, and brought into philosophy and use.

Notwithstanding these considerations, those few pages are published to the world,



world, respecting my remedy, with its safe, convenient, and speedy effects of healing the urinary passage, and of curing the most obstinate gleans of ever so long standing, without the use of bougie ; it has a wonderful effect of removing obstructions in the urethra, where bougies have failed, and of giving vigour and strength to the emissions of both the urine and seed.

The true reason of all the difficulties which attend the cure of claps and gleans, and the sometimes apparent impossibility of curing some of the latter, is entirely owing to the erroneous mode of treatment, the primary cause of which was, getting into the hands of the ignorant ; the consequence of which is, the diseased glands of the urethra become more and more infected, and the virus in time forms small ulcers in the passage. A similar complaint would happen to a small wound on any part of the body, attended with inflammation, if the patient had ever so powerful medicines administered internally, and no attention paid to poultice, and properly dress the sore, it would in time form

form a cavity, get callous edges with fungus flesh, form an ulcer, and become an object of singular attention to both surgeon and patient. Long experience has enabled me to assert this, proved by practice, and not supported by theory only, which, I am of opinion, should never be depended upon, for the treatment of diseases incident to the human body.—

When we consider how few opportunities present themselves, of demonstratively ascertaining the actual state of the urinary passage in a clap or in a gleet, &c. a point which can only be obtained by dissection, it is not in the least surprizing that practitioners differ so very much in opinion about the mode of treating them, as well as to the existence of some of those obstacles I have mentioned. The several affections of the urinary passage, to which mankind are subject, and which arise in consequence of ill-managed claps, and not unfrequently oppose the free evacuation of the urine, &c. may be distinguished as follow : carnosities, or caruncles ; constrictions in different parts of the urethra, from the callus marks of former ulcers ; enlargement of the glands,  
that



that separate the mucus, generally attended with a varicous state of the vessels; fungus ulcers, seated about the ducts of the prostate gland, with an enlargement of the same, and glands of the urethra.

Of the variety of complaints to which those are exposed, who have had long continued ill-cured claps, there is not one more to be dreaded than an habitual stranguary; the great danger of an entire stoppage of urine, which attends this disease; \* the frequent desire the sufferer feels, and the painful endeavours he is obliged to exert in order to expel his urine, render life as precarious, as it must be miserable.

It rarely happens, that those complaints immediately succeed a clap; it more frequently occurs, that the patient feels no pressing symptoms for some months, or even years, after he has been to all appearance perfectly cured; and there are very few so attentive as to take notice of, or be any way alarmed, even though they should

should not urine in as full a stream as they were used to do ; so that the disease is of some time standing before the patient finds any inconvenience from it, or applies for advice, which he generally does not, until from the progress of this complaint, he perceives that he is both a longer time, more frequently solicited, and obliged to use greater efforts in making water.

That all these inconveniences arise from long continued, injudiciously treated claps, is proved almost every day, by those conversant in this kind of business ; and I am well aware, the afflicted, on reflection, must be of this opinion ; and repent, when it is too late, their misfortunes, in the improper mode that was made use of to cure them.

When the clappy matter fixes, as I have said before, on the fine membrane of the urethra, it excites a general inflammation throughout its whole tract, the mucus glands become enlarged, and secrete a preternatural quantity of mucus, which is poured into the passage by  
the



the lacuna, and becomes purulent, from the state of inflammation, and excoriation, or superficial ulceration, with which the passage is affected; but when this inflammation is subdued by the application of my injection, the mucus glands lessen to their natural size; the running becomes viscus and ropy, and soon totally disappears. The same success attends the use of this injection in gleans of the most obstinate kind, of ever so long standing, by its powerful effects on the urinary canal; by the balsamic quality with which it is endowed, it heals firmly any sores that may be in the urethra, and gives vigour and strength to the genital parts.

On the contrary, when the disease in the urinary passage is imprudently managed, the mucus glands will become enlarged, with a disposition readily to become more so, and be farther productive of a derangement in the freedom of circulation, in the spongy substance of the urethra, at different places; hence habitual maladies will infallibly succeed. Stranguries, particularly those that appear so immediately after a clap, are caused by

an injudicious mode of treatment, and the premature stoppage of the venereal running, notwithstanding the patient has no other complaint of the infection, yet there is a strong presumption that he is not perfectly clear of it.

If he should have no gleety purulent running appear, either before or after making water, or soreness along the urethra, there is little reason to suspect the passage to have ulcers.

Caruncles and fungus are often met with, and prove disagreeable obstacles to the efforts of both urine and semen, and enlargement of the glands becomes still more frequent.

When we wish to ascertain the state of the urinary passage, it is adviseable to introduce a bougie smeared with oil; if there are enlargements of any moment, they will be sensible to the touch; but if we find none, and that the patient, notwithstanding, cannot expel the last drop of his urine completely, but that it  
dribbles



dribbles from him ; if in coition the semen is not ejected with a proper degree of force, but runs off gradually on the penis becoming flaccid, there is a strong presumption that the great gland, called the prostate, at the neck of the bladder of urine, is affected, or otherwise enlarged, and that the excretoria of the vesiculæ seminalis, or bladder of semen, is affected likewise.

To ascertain this, the finger should be introduced *in ano*, and those different circumstances will plainly point out the seat of the malady ; in such cases I found the extract of hemlock do wonders, and often perform cures, when my injection was made use of at the same time.

There is no disease that requires more experience for a surgeon to become master of, than the one now in question, and a very strict attention to overcome ; great discernment is required in order to enable the practitioner to judge whether the complaint is merely local, and the patient

free of the venereal virus, and to what kind of obstacle we are to impute it.

It is but seldom a patient puts himself under the surgeon's direction, immediately on perceiving a diminution of the stream of his urine; he seldom applies for advice, until the frequent calls to make water, with painful efforts in expelling of it, are troublesome, or a retention of urine from any irregularity, and not unfrequently inflammation and suppuration *in perineo*.\*

Practitioners, for the various obstructions in the urinary passage, have unanimously recourse to bougies in a number of forms, but most of them are liable to one objection, which is, that except where the obstacles are such as oppose but a slight resistance, they do not possess a sufficient degree of elastic firmness, to prevent their losing their form; when we attempt to introduce them beyond any considerable obstacle they bend, and if  
force

\* Vide Case XVII.



force is used any way through the stricture, upon extraction the end appears broken and twisted, like a cork-screw, which is of great disadvantage, as it excites much pain without doing any kind of good.

To obviate the consequences of such defects, I have for these many years past, formed the bougies I use, on cat-gut, of a proportionable thickness, which answers every intention, having a proper degree of firmness and flexibility, without any danger either of their breaking or becoming twisted, and their introduction is attended with no pain whatsoever.

Bougies are frequently made use of in this metropolis, for complaints in the urinary passage, with great impropriety; several cases of this kind having lately come under my care, particularly that of a field officer, who had a gleet for three years and upwards, and for the cure of which he had put himself under the care of a very eminent surgeon; he had taken a large quantity of astringents, and wore  
bougies

bougies every now and then, for ten months, but all without the wished-for effect. Sometimes, he said, it would diminish a little, and at others, return with redoubled violence, and frequently, intolerable pain of the urinary passage; this I readily inferred, was occasioned from the irritation by the frequent use of the bougie. He at length was recommended by a friend of mine, to consult me; I, without hesitation, advised laying it aside, and to try my injection, which performed a sound cure in the space of three weeks; at the end of which, the urinary passage was perfectly healed, and all the medicine he took, during this time, was a little rhubarb to keep his bowels free.

When the inflammation is violent in the parts engaged in a fresh clap, which by the bye, is more frequent in young subjects, who are caught in their first essays, than in old veterans in amours, who, in general, have not a third part of the pain, I advise but little variation in my patient's diet; he is to be very exact  
in



in the frequent use of my injection, till his symptoms are abated, which it generally does in a few days; and as the cure seldom exceeds a week at farthest, he is to avoid using violent exercise during that time; when the inflammation is abated, the injection used three or four times a day will be sufficient.

Experience will convince the most cautious surgeon, of the expediency of this method of cure, in preference of what hitherto has been used, as it cuts short the former supposed necessity of long continued purging, and giving mercury, to the great detriment of the constitution.

As it is a circumstance of the utmost consequence to distinguish, sometimes, fresh claps from gleet, particularly if the judgment of the practitioner employed is doubtful; for if the first is mistaken for the last, and is neglected, or treated according to his mode of practice, any wise like it, the sufferer runs great hazard of

of getting a confirmed pox;\* on which account, I shall conclude my observations on the diseases of the urinary canal, previously giving my readers such marks of distinction between a recent clap and a gleet, as will enable them, in some measure, to judge for themselves.

The gonorrhœa, or clap, is malignant and inflammatory. A gleet most frequently arises from relaxation, and bodily weakness; itching, inflammation, and heat of urine, are the forerunners of the discharge in a clap. The orifice of the urinary canal is prominent, and often painful, and the sufferer is attacked with a frequent inclination to make water. In a gleet, pains of the loins are not unfrequent, and loss of strength attends the discharge; if any pain or heat of urine follow, it is in much less degree, and only after long continuance of the discharge, which turning sharp and acrimonious, excoriates the surrounding parts. In a clap the discharge suddenly appears; but in a gleet it comes on more slowly,  
and



and may be produced by irregularities, too frequent coition, &c. or whatever weakens the bodily powers. In a clap the discharge is less in quantity, and of a deeper dye, and not attended with the same symptoms of debility. Gleets are more or less in quantity after taking cold, or using much exercise.

## E SECTION

## S E C T I O N II.

**R**EMARKS founded upon experience, are the surest and safest pilots to truth in every profession; and which, when applied to the cure of maladies incident to the human body, are certainly more likely to succeed, than pompous and plausible theories, however refined. As the practice of medicine originally commenced without theory, it is the opinion of some of the most learned of the science, that it might subsist as well without it. Who had any share in giving hints, or directing the wild Indian to a remedy for his disease? He cures himself by the wild vegetables of the field,\*  
and

\* Those sagacious people were the discoverers of the powerful antidote against the bite of a rattlesnake, which till then was always mortal, but now  
is



and as relief is the only thing he regards, or cares for, he never enquires into the cause. Hence practice, built upon simple knowledge, supplies the place of speculation, and teaches the unlettered tribe to place a value on their discoveries according to the relief it procures them.

The rude and uncultivated Africans, who are subject to the most terrible species of the venereal disease, known by the name of *yaws*, a malady very frequent among the black nations, whose sagacity in the mode of its cure, is not to be equalled by any other people on earth; for, as if directed by instinct, when covered over with running sores, they fly to the vegetable kingdom for relief, and by drinking a decoction prepared from the root of a certain plant, a native of both Africa and the West-India islands, they soon cure themselves of this loathsome distemper. Mercury has been found to fail in the cure of it,\* of which I was an

E 2

eye

is of little consequence, provided the remedy is at hand; which is the juice of the plaintain and horehound, equal parts, taken inwardly, and a cataplasm of the leaves bruised, and applied to the wound.

\* Vide Case IV.

eye witness; and at last recourse must be had to this valuable medicine of their own, which in a short time conquers this loathsome distemper; it acts most powerfully by insensible perspiration and urine, gently opening the bowels, thereby ridding the blood of a malady, which otherwise would soon destroy the miserable sufferer.

Man's body is admirably contrived, and made to prevent evils; so no less art and caution hath been used to get rid of them, when they do happen. When by any misfortune wounds or hurts do befall, or when by our own neglect we pull down diseases and mischiefs upon ourselves, what emunctories,\* what admirable passages

\* One of nature's most constant methods here is, by the glands, and the secretions made by them; here are grounds to admire the contrivance of our blood, which, on some occasions, so soon as any thing destructive to the constitution of it comes into it, immediately by an intestine commotion, endeavoureth to thrust it forth, and is not only freed from the new guest, but sometimes what likewise may have lain lurking therein for a great while.

And



pages are dispersed throughout the body, what incomparable methods doth nature take, what vigorous efforts is she enabled to make to discharge the peccant humours, to correct the morbid matter, and, in a word, to set all things right again?

### The

And from hence it comes to pass, that most part of medicines, when duly administered, are not only sent out of the body themselves, but likewise great quantities of morbid matter.

Hippocrates, *Lib. de Alimentis*, takes notice of the sagacity of nature, in finding out methods and passages for the discharging things offensive to the body.

Valsalva discovered some passages into the region of the *ear drum*, of mighty use (among others) to make discharges of bruises, imposthumes, or any purulent or morbid matter from the brain, and parts of the head. Of which he gives two examples, one, a person, who from a blow on his head had dismal pains therein, grew speechless, and lay under an absolute suppression and decay of his strength, but found certain relief, whenever he had a flux of blood, or purulent matter out of his ear, which, after his death, Valsalva discovered was through those passages.

The other was an apoplectical case, wherein he found a large quantity of extravasated blood, making way from the ventricles of the brain, through those same passages. *Vide Valsal. de aur human, C. 2, 14, and C. 5, 8.*

The body is so contrived, as to be well enough secured against the mutations in the air, and the lesser errors we daily run upon, did we not in our excesses of eating, drinking, thinking, loving, or some other folly, let in the enemy, or lay violent hands upon ourselves. Nor is the body fitted not only to prevent, but also to cure, or mitigate diseases, when by these follies brought upon us. In most wounds, if kept clean, and from the air, the flesh will glew together with its own native balm. Broken bones are cemented with the callus which themselves help to make.

There are many instances of distempers of our bodies being highly serviceable to the discharge of malignant humours,\* and preventing greater evils. No less kind than admirable, is the contrivance of man's body, that even its diseases should many times be its cure ; that when  
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\* For the blood in a fever, if well-governed, like wine upon the fret, dischargeth itself of all heterogeneous mixtures ; whereby that which threatens death, tends often, in conclusion, to the prolonging of life.



the enemy lies lurking within to destroy us, there should be such a reluctance, and all nature excited with its utmost vigour to expel him thence. To which purpose even pain itself is of great and excellent use, not only in giving us notice of the presence of the enemy, but by exciting us to use our utmost diligence and skill, to root out so troublesome and destructive a companion.

What can possibly be better contrived for animal motion and life, than the quick circulation of the blood and fluids, which run out of sight in the capillary vessels, and very minute ducts, without impediment (except in some diseases) being all directed to their peculiar glands and channels, for the different secretions, sensible and insensible; whereof the last is far the greatest in quantity and effects; as to health and sickness, acute distempers frequently arising from a diminution of transpiration, through the cutaneous chimnies, and from chronical ones from an augmentation; whereas obstructions in the liver, pancreas, and other glands, may only cause a schirras, a jaundice, an ague, a dropy,

a dropfy, or other flow difeafes. So an increafe of their fecretions may accompany the general colliquations, as in fluxes, hectic fweats and coughs, diabetes, and other confumptions.

It is astonishing, the wife contrivance there is to preferve thefe due fecretions from the blood, (on which life fo much depends) by frequent attritions and comminutions of the fluids, in their paffage through the heart, the lungs, and the whole fyftem of the mufcles ! What meanders and contortions of veffels in the organs of feperation ? And what a concurrence of elastic bodies from the air, to fupply the fprings and continual motions of fome parts, not only in fleep and reft, but in long violent exercifes of the mufcles, whofe force drives the fluid round in a wonderful rapid circulation through the minuteft tubes, affifted by the conftant pabulum of the atmofphere, and their own elastic fibres, which impreff that velocity on the fluids !

The air hath alfo a very great fhare in all the digestions of the folid and fluid parts.



parts. For when the system of air comes to be corrupted with poisonous acrimonious steams, what havock is made in all the operations of living creatures? The parts gangrene and mortify under blotches, and other tokens; and indeed the whole animal œconomy is ruined; of so great importance is the air to all parts of it.

Having already considered the local venereal affections, with the easy mode by which they may be removed, when the patients get into proper hands, I shall now relate to my readers the safe, and expeditious method of curing every species of pox, without a day's confinement, restraint of diet, or endangering the constitution with mercury, by the improper use of which thousands are sent, either sooner or later, from this great metropolis to their untimely graves.

Without entering into any prolix detail of the various opinions of the preparations made use of to re-establish the health of the sufferer, I will only offer what I have found, on attentive observation, the most effectual method of curing

ing this disease, under different loathsome circumstances. This medicine is the Montpellier Apozem, endowed with the most powerful alterative quality ; the superior degree of penetrability (if I may be allowed the expression) which this medicine possesses, above all mercurials ; and its action being chiefly determined to the surface, may be the reason why it is found so powerful a resource in all venereal cases, when salivation has failed.\* It is judiciously observed by an ingenious physician, that this medicine will speedily re-establish the health of patients labouring under pocky symptoms, and who are afflicted at the same time with a hawking cough, who have a husky dry breast, and whose nervous system is excessively irritable, or who are subject to any hemorrhage ; for it is well known, that such will not bear mercury, and which will inevitably destroy them, even although it be ever so prudently administered. It is to be drank to the quantity of a pint or two a day, and generally eradicates the  
most



most confirmed infection, in a few weeks ; an extract is also prepared from it, for the convenience of those who travel, which may be either taken in the form of a pill, or dissolved in a glass of capillaire and water, or any liquid the patient prefers ; it has the same effect as the Apozem ; it may be had by application to me, either personally, or by letter, and sent to any part of the world.

There are no poxes, in general, harder to cure than those attended with venereal warts ; I have seen cases of this kind resist every mode of treatment, particularly repeated mercurial frictions ; which when too long persevered in, have terminated in a fatal rapid hectic\*. I found that the Montpellier Apozem bids fairer for removing them, than any other mode of treatment I have seen practised ; beside, the patient has this comfort, that *his mouth is never affected, nor the breath never tainted, nor the gums and teeth injured*, all which evils are occasioned by mercury, as all those who have been for

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any

Vide Case V.

any time under the influence of that planet must allow.

- In venereal enlargements of the bones, and cutaneous eruptions, which we often find elude the force of mercury, this Apozem frequently effects a cure.

It is a general received opinion among practitioners, that in cases where the venereal virus is combined with a scorbutic habit of body, mercury is not only rendered very precarious, but its administration extremely dangerous. In such cases the Apozem speedily and effectually cures both. Mercury is by all allowed dangerous in universal weakness of the body; and where the patient is in the least consumptive, he might sink under a salivary discharge; or, where the blood vessels, from their decay, lose their vibrating power, and cannot sufficiently re-act upon the circulating fluids; in this case mercury diffused throughout the blood, will not only prove ineffectual, but further inflame, break down, and destroy the parts already diseased. When this distemper is complicated with the gout or rheumatism,



tism, the exhibition of mercury is highly improper, those disorders are aggravated by its use ; whereas the Apozem effects a cure with safety, by correcting the blood, and evacuating the putrid humours by the discharges of insensible perspiration, urine, and stool.

The dangerous effects of mercury are very clearly pointed out by Dr. Robinson, an ingenious physician, who has wrote an excellent treatise on the venereal disease; and has laid down a number of cases where it was found highly prejudicial, and frequently fatal to the patients ; hence all candid judges will give the preference to the mode of cure by this alterative medicine, which is gentle and mild in its effects, being much more safe, as well as more certain, in totally eradicating every species of the venereal disease, and repairing the injuries done to the constitution, by the improper use of mercury.

*A proper*

*A proper Distinction between Venereal Symptoms, and those often mistaken for such by the afflicted.*

As nothing can so much impair health as a state of constant suspense and uneasiness of mind, the following distinguishing marks, selected from the observations of the learned Dr. Astruc, who is justly allowed the best author on the venereal disease, are laid down for the satisfaction and information of my readers.

The propriety of such observations will be readily allowed, when it is told, that it will enable the patient in some measure to judge for himself; hence it is evident, that not unfrequently from the want of them, the timorous have often been drove to despair, and forced into the hands of the ignorant, who might turn such unnecessary fears to their illicit gain. On this occasion, I have thought proper to quote the authority of the above author, rather than deliver opinions of my own.

“ No wonder that pocky symptoms are so often doubtful and mistaken by the patient,



patient, for those of other diseases, since men of judgment and extensive knowledge in the medical profession, sometimes find it difficult to know the real difference ; and it is chiefly from repeated experience, that we are enabled to distinguish them more truly.

“ The nature of the signs are two-fold, *viz.* either such as are demonstrative and certain, because they are peculiar to the venereal disease only ; or such as are equivocal and uncertain, because they are common to other disorders.

“ The demonstrative signs of infection in women are, *frequent abortion, or the sickly constitution of children, born at their full time*, *viz.* such as scrophulous, ricketty, hectic, and emaciated ; especially if these disorders happen in most, or all the children of the same family.

“ When local venereal symptoms, such as shankers, excrescences, warts, or buboes, appear either spontaneously at first, or after an apparent cure break out afresh, without connection with a suspected female,

male, they are certain signs of the strongest infection.

“ All eruptive disorders of the skin, when they happen without a manifest cause, and obstinately resist the force of common medicines, are suspicious signs of a venereal taint ; but such cutaneous affections ought to be distinguished from other diseases of the skin, which are critical and not venereal ; or from yellow or livid scorbutic spots, which most abound where the other marks of a confirmed scurvy appear.

“ Ulcers of the throat, nose, palate, and gums, with rottenness, or caries of the adjacent bones, are often observed in an inveterate pox ; but there is need of caution to avoid confounding them with such as are scorbutic, which are nearly related to them in situation, malignancy and difficulty of cure, but very different in other respects. For instance, venereal ulcers first attack the tonsels, glands, and throat, then the gums, but more rarely and slowly ; on the contrary, scorbutic ulcers first  
attack



attack the gums, and afterwards the throat and tonsils.

“ Venereal ulcers frequently seize on the nose, with a rottenness of the subjacent bones; but scorbutic ulcers seldom or never.

“ Venereal ulcers corrode and form cavities; scorbutic ones shoot out spongy excrescences, or proud flesh.

“ Likewise, venereal ulcers are joined with other signs of the venereal disease; and scorbutic ones with those of scurvy; except in the scorbutic pox, where the symptoms are complicated and uncertain.

“ Care should also be taken, not to mistake venereal pains for those which are scorbutic, rheumatic, or gouty; the former are generally increased by heat of the bed, and are therefore called nocturnal.

“ Venereal pains are chiefly confined to the solid, or middle part of the bones of the legs, and arms; scorbutic or rheu-

G

matic

matic ones usually invade the joints and membranous parts of the body. The first are not relieved by common remedies, and only yield to a venereal treatment; the last are mitigated by the use of flannel, or warm weather; they often go off and return by irregular periods, and frequently are produced by manifest causes, such as intemperance, catching cold, or living too long on salt, or indigestible provision.

“If a deep seated, violent pain has occupied the same part for a considerable time, obstinately resisting all remedies; or if the patient for several evenings successively, has been seized with chilliness, or slight shivering fit, succeeded by feverish heat, and sweats towards the morning, they are signs of a latent pox, particularly where there are other corresponding symptoms.

“Tumours of the glands do sometimes happen from causes which are not venereal; particularly from scrophulous humours, or a ricketty disposition; there is, notwithstanding



notwithstanding, need of great caution to distinguish them truly.

“ The equivocal, or more remote and uncertain signs of infection, are inflammation of the eyes, head-ach, hissing noise in the ears, with thickness of hearing, giddiness of the head, and wasting of the body, with universal weakness, and a slow intermitting fever.

“ If after shankers suddenly dried up, a buboe repelled, or gonorrhœa restrained, by art, or accident, the same complaint breaks out again, without any fresh cause, then it is evident the patient is poxed; so it is probable there is latent infection; or if he is subject to a falling off of the hair, ulcers in the throat, or nose, pains in the bones, or muscles, an atrophy, or wasting of the body, and slow intermitting fever.”

## C A S E I.

PETERBOROUGH, *March* 1776.

A robust man, aged twenty-two, was three months in the hospital at Leeds in Yorkshire, for a swelled testicle, subsequent to a clap; the surgeons having used the common methods in such cases in vain, and in putting on a schirrhous aspect, condemned it for amputation, to which the young man would not consent, but desired to be discharged, and having no mode of subsisting, he enlisted with a recruiting party of the 70th regiment, who were then in town; but when the serjeant brought him to the surgeon, on examining the testicle, he would not pass him. He then left Leeds and came to Peterborough, where he had some relations, and enlisted into the 16th regiment of light dragoons quartered there; as I then was assistant surgeon to this corps, he was brought to me for examination; his testicle was of a prodigious size, not having it suspended, it occasioned a violent pain in his back, and from the long journey which he had taken on foot all the



the way, he was rendered weak, languid, and feverish. It felt hard and insensible to the touch, the spermatic chord was considerably enlarged; my opinion was, that I did not think him a fit person for a soldier, and in consequence, he was dismissed by the non-commissioned officer. Major-General Harcourt, who then was Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment, seeing him in a little time after with the serjeant in the street, and taking notice of his being a well made man, was sorry to hear I had not passed him, and accordingly sent for me, to know if I thought it was possible to cure him; I could give the General but small hopes, indeed, for the testicle had every appearance of a confirmed schirrhous; as he was a desirable recruit, the General expressed a strong desire for me to take him into the regimental hospital, ordering him daily pay as a soldier.

On putting a few questions to him, he gave me to understand, that about eighteen months before he had a running from the penis, for which he applied to a country practitioner, whose care he had been under three months; the first month  
of

of which he used to take a powder every third morning, which worked fourteen or fifteen times by stool, and the intermediate days he took two or three pills at night; that those contained mercury I had no doubt, as he told me his mouth became very sore, and some of his teeth were loose, his running still continued, and when his mouth got well, he was ordered to bathe every day in a cold spring; this stopped the running, and in about another month the epididymy became hard and painful, and by degrees the body of the testicle became also hard, enlarged, and increased, till it arrived at the present state.

I began by administering to him a powerful alterative preparation, compounded of antimony; between whiles, he took the extract of hemlock, and I applied a cataplasm prepared of the same, to the diseased testicle; in the course of twenty-nine days, it was astonishing the good effects of this treatment, as the testicle now changed from that hard insensible feel, to be softer and sensible to the touch; in about three weeks more I could

plainly



plainly distinguish the epididymy, and in the space of ten weeks from the commencement of taking his medicines, it was reduced nearly the size of his other, being changed from a highly diseased state, to a perfect sound one in every respect, which before had been condemned for amputation; he was now discharged the hospital to learn his exercise, when he afterwards went to America with the regiment, and was shot in an action with the enemy at *Prince Town*.

## C A S E II.

PETERBOROUGH, *April 1776*.

A young gentleman, aged twenty-three, an officer of dragoons, applied to me for a running from the penis, which, he said, had been more or less upon him, since March 1774, at which time he had been clapped, and was under the care of a country practitioner, from whom he had taken mercury till his tongue was swelled, and his mouth intolerably painful, with a violent spitting; when the effects of the mercury abated, his running still continued till the present time; being convinced

vinced there was no virus in the discharge, I put him under a course of bracing medicines, which were continued two months, with little or no benefit; I then tried a bougie, with various applications to the urethra, but all seemed to do no good, his gleet still continued. At this time we were on our passage to New-York, and advised bathing every morning in the salt water, by plunging into a cask filled on deck, for that purpose; from this he received some benefit, but a little after our arrival at New-York, it returned again with the usual violence, and continued till February 1777, which was the time I discovered the injection, which I have already spoken of, by the use of which for twenty days, he got perfectly well.

### C A S E III.

LAT. 41, 50, *July* 1776.

In my passage with the troops to America, a boat came along side from a transport, one morning, with a message from an officer of the army, requesting me to go and see him, that he was very ill in his bed. When I arrived on board the transport



transport in which he was, I found him with his head leaning over the side of his bed, and the saliva running from his mouth in an entire full stream; his tongue was swelled to such a degree, as to extend his cheeks; he could swallow nothing, and was totally deprived of his speech. I immediately perceived it was the effects of mercury, and desired his servant to get pen, ink, and paper, to write some account of his case, and what mode had been used by him to get into that condition. He gave me to understand, that having applied to a surgeon of eminence in London, for the cure of some eruptions, which had many years affected his breast, he gave him three boxes of pills, with directions to take one or two every night, not doubting but they would perfectly cure him in the course of the passage, of which he had only taken six, till all at once he was seized in the manner I saw him. I sent him an emollient application for his mouth, and proper medicines to take, in order to carry the mercury out of the system as soon as possible. The fourth day he was enabled to speak to me, and to swallow some

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nourishment;

nourishment ; it was thirty days before his mouth was healed. He was now emaciated, and melted down to a skeleton, and seized with a cough and intermitting fever. Notwithstanding all this severe discipline, the spots on his breast still remained ; they were of the copper coloured kind, with the skin peeling off now and then. When we arrived at New-York, he put himself under my care ; and by a course of the Alterative Apozem, for nine weeks, was restored to perfect health ; is now in London, and has never had the smallest return.

#### C A S E IV.

NEW-YORK, *Aug.* 1778.

An English merchant, who had lately arrived from Martinico, where he had been a prisoner some time with the French, employed me to attend him for a few pustular and leprous eruptions, in different parts of his body. He had a small abscess in each arm-pit, and some small warts about the anus ; his genital parts were quite free from any symptom whatever ; his hands and feet were considerably



derably swollen, with large fissures, from whence issued a very stinking ichorous matter. I opened the abscesses in his arm-pits, and put him immediately under a course of mercurials, which was continued three weeks; but instead of gaining ground on the disorder, he got worse, the eruptions became now running sores, did not seem in the least disposed to heal up, but vented a vast deal of stinking fætid matter; nay, even new ones broke out under each arm-pit, and a large tumour formed on his rump, which soon discharged the same kind of virulent matter. His body became now covered with scales, which grew so hard and stiff, that he could scarce bend a limb or finger; a number of ulcers broke out in his thighs and buttocks, from whence flowed great quantities of purulent and somewhat bloody matter. A very large tumor was also risen in his right breast, and soon after on the left, voiding prodigious quantities of the same kind of matter. It was observable in this gentleman's case, that wherever any of these ulcers appeared, they ran only under the skin, being entirely seated in, and feed-

ing on the adipose membrane (which confirms the opinion of the Professor Boerhaave, about the seat of the venereal disease) the muscles and tendons underneath appeared as fair and florid, as in the most healthy constitution. I was really quite confounded at this dreadful face of things, and seriously bethought me, what farther method could be taken against so terrible an enemy. I did not hesitate to pronounce it the worst species of pox, called the *yaws*, which he had contracted from some of the Negro wenches, when he was a prisoner. I had recourse to a warm emollient bath, in which his whole body was immersed, after which he was well anointed with an emollient liniment; this was done for seven days successively. I found there was nothing to be done by mercury in any form, and therefore determined to run it off by insensible perspiration; for this purpose he drank, by my direction, a quart of the Montpellier Apozem a day, at the same time keeping up a most plentiful dilution, attempting withal, to detach the scaly cuticle, by continued emollient baths. By this means, the scales  
came



came off apace, just in the manner usual in the confluent small-pox, only much larger, several being above four or five inches over. In about a week's time this coat of mail was pretty well cleared off, and his breath, from being the most horribly nauseous I ever smelt, became as sweet as that of an infant; he was, in consequence, exceedingly emaciated, wherefore I ordered him a plentiful nourishing diet, but withal to keep to his Alterative Apozem, of which he drank three pints every twenty-four hours. He now began daily to gather strength and spirits; in the space of ten weeks, from his first putting himself under my care, his health was perfectly re-established, and he is at present in the city of London.

## C A S E V.

NEW-YORK, *Dec.* 1778.

A young gentleman of fortune, a native of Jamaica, aged about twenty-four, during his residence at New-York, got poxed; his symptoms were an ulcer in the left tonsel, and two or three shankers  
on

on the nut of the penis, for the cure of which, he put himself under the care of a surgeon of deserved reputation in that city, who recommended him to confine himself to his chamber, and to rub in the mercurial unktion every night; this was continued for thirty-five days, till he spit between three and four pints a day; the shankers were by this time healed up, and his throat almost well. On the thirty-ninth day he was seized with a violent purging, accompanied with great pain in his bowels, and violent straining when at stool. His surgeon being alarmed, desired I would accompany him on his visit. I found him in great agony, almost constantly on his close-stool; we agreed to give him an opiate immediately, and an emollient clyster, in which some opium was dissolved every hour; after having three, he was much easier, and went to sleep. The next day the violence of his pain was much abated, but his purging still continued; about the third day he passed the mucus, that lines the intestines, more or less, in every stool; the opiates were continued, but with little or no effect. At this time, what food

he



he swallowed, passed off by stool, with little or no change. He remained in this miserable state for upwards of ten days, when he was entirely emaciated, and nature quite exhausted, at length changed, the flux stopped, and he began to acquire strength by very slow degrees. He was now seized with a hawking cough, and had every appearance of having a pocky consumption. I was now ordered to join the army, and could make no farther remarks on his case; but in twelve months after I was informed, that he died shortly after his arrival at Montego Bay, in Jamaica, where he went to his estate.

## C A S E VI.

NEW-YORK, *May* 1779.

An officer of distinguished rank in the army, who had great dependence on a celebrated preventive, sent for me one morning, having a pain in both testicles, and the glands of both his groins enlarged. I had no doubt, after examining, that it was venereal; but to this I could hardly persuade him, he attributed it to violent exercise he had taken the preceding day,  
and

and he added, the caution he took after the act, by steeping the nut of his penis in the specific, he was sure saved him from being infected, if used any time within eight hours. I was astonished at his faith, and could not help observing, that it had at last completely deceived him. In two or three days more he was of my way of thinking, the swelling in his groins enlarged, and became very painful, his testicles also inflamed very much. I had them immediately suspended, and applied an emollient cataplasm, and took away a large quantity of blood; there was neither running nor shanker, but the inflammation was the most obstinate I had ever seen before, attacking both testicles, each of which was swelled to the size of a large cocoa-nut; it was four weeks before I could conquer it, during which time one of his buboes dispersed, the other came to suppuration, and discharged prodigiously. When his fever and inflammation of the testicles abated, his appetite became voracious, eating double the quantity he was ever known to do before, when in perfect health. By persisting in the use of the Alterative Apozem, in the  
space



space of six weeks his buboe was completely healed, without the least scar, and his testicles of their natural size; he looked now full as well as before he was taken ill, having a fair and florid countenance, with his health perfectly restored.

## C A S E VII.

CHATHAM BARRACKS, *May* 1780.

A non-commissioned officer, aged 26, got clapped, and being afraid of its coming to the knowledge of his wife, for the greater privacy, applied to a surgeon in Rochester to be cured; in taking his medicines about a fortnight, his foreskin swelled and inflamed; he, however, did his duty, and kept attending his doctor, who was puzzled what to do; at last his phymosis got to such a pitch, as to bind the orifice of the urinary passage, and impede the discharge of his urine. All this time the clappy matter had insinuated itself between the glans, or nut of the penis, and the foreskin, and had made terrible havock. He was now in a high fever, and unable to get up; his wife

then came, requesting I would go to see her husband, who, she said, was taken very ill in the night. On asking him a few questions, I soon discovered the cause of his fever, and desired that he might be brought to the hospital. When he arrived, I made an incision of the foreskin, upwards of two inches, laying bare the glans, which was no sooner done, than the major part of it sloughed entirely away, being completely mortified; by a course of antiseptic and alterative medicines, with proper dressings to the part, he was perfectly well in the space of thirty-one days, except the mutilation of his penis, the nut of which was now pointed, and not much thicker than a small wooden scower.

## C A S E VIII.

CHATHAM BARRACKS, *May 1780.*

The surgeon of the garrison requested I might accompany him, to see a non-commissioned officer of the 54th regiment, who had a buboe in the right groin, laid open by caustick, about five weeks before; it had made the most  
astonishing



astounding havock on the surrounding parts, I had ever seen ; the muscles of the thigh were laid bare about six inches, and it extended upwards far above Fallopius ligament ; it had a very unfavourable aspect, large portions of the muscles and tendons, sloughing away at every dressing, till at length the great artery was almost naked ; he had been salivated, and at this time was spitting near two pints a day ; he had a hectic fever on him, and every sign of a pocky consumption, and in about three weeks after this died.

## C A S E IX.

NEW-YORK, *August* 1778.

A robust man, aged forty-two, mate of a ship belonging to Bristol, had been afflicted with a gleet for four years and upwards, in consequence of an ill-cured clap, during which time he had applied to many of the faculty for relief, some of whom, to use his own words, patched him for a few days, and sometimes weeks, but as soon as he performed the venereal act, it as constantly returned.

On his arrival at New-York, he put himself under the care of an apothecary of that city, who gave him pills made up of rosin and balsam of capiva, in very large quantities ; the fifteenth day of taking these, he was seized all at once with a suppression of urine, accompanied with violent pain about his bladder, and a high fever. His captain sent for me to come and see him, I found him in most excruciating pain ; he had passed no urine for eighty-six hours, and he was deprived, in a great measure, of the intellectual faculty.

I immediately took a large quantity of blood away, ordered a clyster to be thrown up, and got him, as soon as possible, into a hot bath, where I drew off his urine ; he was now, as he expressed himself, in another world, having by these means had relief, felt easy, and comfortable, took an opiate, and went to sleep. His urine, however, did not come away in a stream for near a month afterwards ; the tone of the bladder and the neighbouring parts being so destroyed, by the irritating medicines that had been made use of.

After



After this he put himself under my care for his gleet, which was the most copious I had ever seen. I recommended him to use my injection five or six times a day, keeping his bowels at the same time gently open, causing little or no alteration in his diet. About ten days after the gleety matter changed to be quite thick and ropy, and in ten days more it entirely disappeared. His ship remained at New-York three months after this, during which time he had frequent connections with the fair, but not the least return of his gleet; since my return to England, I have seen a particular friend of his, who assures me, he never had the least return of it, but remains in perfect health.

The following case is related in the patient's own words, agreeable to the letter which he did the favour to send me, after his recovery; and which, by his particular request, was published in most of the public papers.

C A S E

## C A S E X.

S I R,

As it appears to me a duty incumbent on every individual, who receives benefit from his fellow-creature, and particularly where the invaluable blessing, health, is concerned, not only to return that person thanks by whose skill such benefit has been derived, but also to acknowledge it in a public manner, for the good of those unfortunate persons, who may labour under a malady similar to mine; you have my permission to make what use you please of the following :

About ten months ago, I contracted a venereal complaint, at Kingston in Jamaica, which did not make its appearance upon me, till I had been four weeks at sea, in my passage home; and having no surgeon on board, unfortunately got no assistance, any farther than what a small medicine box afforded, agreeable to the written directions. It was twelve weeks before we made the English Channel, during



during which time the disease had made rapid progress; I was all over covered with spots and blotches, my skin peeling off on the least touch; my right testicle was swelled to six times its natural size, exceeding hard to the touch, and an abscess formed in the urinary passage, between the scrotum and fundament, which pressing upon the passage, stopped the free discharge of my urine. I applied immediately on my arrival in London, by direction of a captain in the army, who was my passenger, to an eminent surgeon in the West end of the town, noted for his skill in venereal complaints, who advised me to confine myself to my chamber, and I accordingly took a lodging near him, for the better convenience of his attendance. I was soon put under a course of mercury, and a spitting excited, to upwards of two quarts a day; this was continued, less or more, for seven weeks, during which time my symptoms did not at all abate, as was expected, but only the spots partly disappeared; my testicle still continued its usual hardness, though free from much pain, and still of an uncommon size. The abscess formed  
in

in my urinary passage, became now a running fistulas ulcer, through which my urine passed when I made water. I was now seized with a hawking cough and low continual fever, with total loss of appetite, my gums, mouth, and teeth, in horrid condition, when my friend, Lieut. Maigill, of the Queen's American Rangers, calling to see me, advised me to send for you, which I immediately did, when you positively gave it as your opinion, that if I did not leave off mercury, I should be soon a dead man, and that another mode of treatment must be adopted, having had too much mercury already. My first surgeon proposed to have my testicle taken off, to which you objected, and I accordingly put myself under your care.

It is above my abilities, Sir, to express my gratitude to you, for your singular skill and attention towards me, in such a deplorable state, as I was now become a nuisance to all about me, and apparently in a deep consumption. I was removed, by your order, to an airy situation in Tottenham-Court-Road. When I began



to drink the Montpellier Apozem, to the quantity of a quart a day; by your order I rode out in a carriage, as often as the weather was pleasant, which, with the addition of no other medicine, and the dressings and applications to the urethra, and testicle, I obtained in the space of eight weeks a complete cure, being happily relieved from all my symptoms. My urine, which before passed through the fistula in my urethra, came now the natural way, the sore being completely healed, and my testicle, (which the first gentleman said was become schirrous) was now of its natural size; my cough and fever left me; my appetite became good, and I daily after gathered strength, contrary to the expectation of my friends, acquaintance, and all who knew my case.

I remain, Sir, your ever obliged,  
and obedient servant,

JAMES MATTHEW,  
Master of the ship Mary,  
in the Jamaica trade.

*Wellclose-Square, March 10, 1784.*

To Mr: NEALE, Surgeon, late of  
the fifth Reg: of Foot, No. 9,  
*Old Compton-street, Soho.*

## C A S E XI.

LONDON, *March* 1783.

A captain in a regiment of infantry, being about to change his condition, and fearful of any lurking venereal infection, applied to me, to know whether or not the disease would make its appearance in the course of a month, in case the last female with whom he had connection, had infected him. He added, that he thought himself very lucky to escape; for he had learned, that one or two of his acquaintances were injured, and had reason to suspect they had caught it from the same person. There was an unusual itching about his scrotum, but that, he continued, could be nothing, as he supposed it arose from heat; I desired to see it, when I discovered several spots, the cuticle, or outer skin, in many places, broke, with a slight degree of inflammation; this, he said, his nails had occasioned; however, as it had the real criterion of being venereal, and determined always to do my duty, as well for my own credit, as my patients welfare, I did not hesitate to tell him it was the pox.

There



There being nothing the matter with the penis, he was of a different way of thinking, and went away to his quarters, about twelve miles in the country. Falling in company with a practitioner there, he related his complaint, who gave his opinion, that it certainly arose from the heat in walking, and was no more than common. The doctor gave him some goulard to wash it with, which he made no doubt would soon cure him; after using it about a week, the scrotum got hard and inflamed, with a large running, and spreading sore, and a number of scaly eruptions. The captain was now alarmed, and the doctor candidly told him, he had better apply to a surgeon, who had experience in those kind of complaints. The captain returned to me again on the twelfth day from my first seeing him; his scrotum was now in a state of violent inflammation, and the eruptions running a purulent matter. His testicles were not in the least affected, the disease being fixed in the skin only; by emollient applications to the parts, with the Alterative Apozem, that gentle mode, as is my custom in all pocky symptoms, he was

perfectly well in twenty-nine days, during which time he looked as fat and ruddy as ever, and in a little time after entered into matrimony.

## C A S E XII.

LONDON, *May* 1783.

Being in company with a gentleman going to the city, he requested I would step into a woollen draper's shop, till he settled some business with the master, who I perceived behind the counter, afflicted with a violent cough and spitting of phlegm. On his expressing a wish to his acquaintance, with whom I was in company, to be cured of his cough, he instantly introduced me. I could not help smiling, little thinking to be employed on the occasion; I looked narrowly at him, and perceived he had that aspect which is so well known to all practitioners, who are much accustomed to venereal practice; he was about twenty-four years of age, and of a delicate constitution,

He



He observed, that besides his cough, which was so very troublesome, he had been afflicted with the scurvy for some years ; opening his breast, and shewing me a number of spots, which gave him vast uneasiness, for the cure of which, he observed, he had tried all the quack medicines in vain. Now and then, he said, a few spots broke out on his head, but this he attributed to the hair-dresser's comb. When I examined minutely into the state of his health previous to this, as well as the appearance of his present symptoms, I candidly told him, that he must not be surpris'd to hear me assure him, it was a confirmed venereal complaint ; and that I had no doubt, but his cough was occasioned by the pocky matter falling on his lungs, which might terminate in a consumption, and destroy him, if proper methods were not soon pursued. He was much amazed at first, till, after a little reflection, he readily consented to comply with any mode I should prescribe for his cure, and accordingly put himself under my care. He had a burning fever on him every night, as regularly as the night came, little or no appetite,

petite, and every appearance of being hectic. As there was no time to be lost, he began the next day to drink the Montpellier Apozem; I gave nothing barely for his cough, being convinced that, as well as his fever, was symptomatical, and would abate as the virus became more and more destroyed. In this it turned out as I expected, for in a fortnight the fever entirely left him, and he began to come to his appetite. In twenty-one days more his cough abated, and from a pale, fallow, plumbane countenance, his complexion became perfectly clear, and he began to have colour in his cheeks. He now expressed a desire to drink two quarts of the Apozem a day instead of one, by the use of which alone, in the space of nine weeks, he was perfectly freed from all his symptoms, his health perfectly re-established, and happily saved from an untimely grave.

## C A S E XIII.

LONDON, *April* 1784.

A gentleman picked up a girl in the street, went into an hotel, and lay with her;



her; in about three weeks after, he had several shankers on the nut of his penis, the foreskin became inflamed, with a terrible phymosis; I attended him, and in a short time he got well. Before the disorder appeared, he had frequent connections with his wife, who never had the least complaint in consequence.

#### C A S E XIV.

LONDON, *April* 1784.

An officer of the royal navy applied to me, for advice in a running from the urinary passage, which, he said, was brought on by a strain, and that he was well convinced it could not proceed from any venereal cause, depending on the soundness of the subject with whom he cohabited. Upon examining the orifice of the urinary passage, and the colour of the discharge, I told him, that instead of a strain, I had not the least doubt but that he was clapped, and would undertake to serve him on no other terms. He replied, that as his girl had nothing of the kind, it was impossible, and thus went away in surprize. In about a  
month

month afterwards, he sent for me to his lodgings, where I found him in bed, scarcely able to get up, having a large buboe in each groin, enlarged to such a degree, as to fill up the cavity, and the fluctuation of matter was very easily felt with the finger.

He told me, that he now repented his not having taken my advice, and unfortunately had applied to a medical gentleman in the country, where he had been for a few days, and who differed widely in opinion with me, assuring him it was a gleet, and wondered that any surgeon could make so egregious a mistake. This doctor accordingly gave him a bracing electuary, and some drops ; at the same time recommending to him, in the strongest terms, to bathe his thighs and buttocks in a tub of cold water, every morning. This treatment in about a fortnight stopped the discharge, and the glands of the groins became then painful and enlarged, till at length he was unable to walk. In two days after this I made a small opening in each of them, and they discharged a prodigious quantity  
of



of matter. The next day he got up, and, with the help of his crutches, limped about; I then put him under a course of the Alterative Apozem, and in thirty-one days the buboes were completely healed, the marks scarcely to be observed; during the whole time, he lived as usual, and took fresh air, and exercise.

## C A S E XV.

LONDON, *June 1784.*

A member of parliament did me the honour to consult me, in a case of running from the urethra, which had troubled him, more or less, for two years and upwards. On enquiry, I found he had taken mercury for the cure of a clap preceding his gleet, and also strong purges; he gave me to understand it had afflicted him ever since. Before I was consulted, bracing medicines, bougies, and cold bathing had been tried, but all to no purpose. As he was oblig'd to go down to Devonshire, upon business of importance, I packed up a few bottles of my injection, that he might carry with him to apply in the usual way. In five

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weeks

weeks after, he was so obliging as to favour me with a letter, informing me, that he was completely braced up, without the least discharge whatsoever; and his urine, which before dribbled in consequence of the lax and debilitated state of the parts, came now in a strong and full stream.

## C A S E XVI.

LONDON, *July* 1784.

A field officer called on me, desiring I would visit a courtesan, who, he said, was exceeding ill in bed; that she had already employed a practitioner for a considerable time past, without receiving any benefit. I found her in a high fever, and in violent pain, with a great discharge of saliva from her mouth, in consequence of the mercury he had taken; upon examining farther, I found a remarkable large abscess on the right labia,\* completely suppurated; I did not hesitate to make a small opening into it, which discharged a prodigious quantity of matter. This gave her instant relief, and when I visited her

\* The right side of the genital parts.



her the next day, she was up, and walking about her chamber; I perceived a small ulcer on her left tonsel, for which I put her under a course of the Montpellier Apozem, by the use of which, and proper applications to the parts affected, her health was perfectly restored in twenty-one days.

## C A S E XVII.

LONDON, *Sept.* 1784.

An officer of a provincial regiment, aged 46, who had been clapped about seven years ago, unattended with any particular circumstance, about the sixth year after began to make urine with difficulty, and in a much smaller stream than usual. He informed me, that he had been purged very much by the medicines his surgeon had given him, and his mouth made exceeding sore for upwards of six weeks, and that it was upwards of two years before the running (which in consequence of maltreatment became a gleet) stopped. In September he had a small abscess formed *in perinaeo*,\* and another on one side of

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the

\* The space between the testicles and fundament.

the anus; the former bursted of itself before he applied, and the latter I opened with the lancet. In three or four days after this, his urine dripped away through the one in his urinary passage; and on the fifth day after I was astonished, on removing the dressings, to find near an inch and half of the urethra like a honeycomb, all round the first mentioned fistula, making in all six more holes, each of which communicated with the urinary passage, through which most of his urine passed, very little coming the natural way. The under part of the scrotum, perineum, and one side of the anus, were extremely enlarged and callous; I immediately applied a suppurative bougie, which was continued for some time; by which I procured an abundant discharge, and the strictures were now so far removed, as to admit the introduction of a catheter, when I introduced one invented by the ingenious Mons. Pettit, which I covered with the bougie plaister. This procured every advantage that could arise from drawing off the urine in the natural way, and to prevent it from dripping through



through the holes, or fistulas in the passage. It was surprizing to think how soon the enlargements began to subside, and the callosities to be melted down. I however took the precaution during this treatment, to put him on a slight course of alteratives, and the most effectual I ever tried, is the Montpellier Apozem, of which he drank about a wine quart a-day; he now makes water in a full stream, and the enlargement and callosities are entirely vanished; and at this time there appears only the smallest oozing out of one of the fistula, and I have every probability that he will shortly be perfectly well.

## C A S E XVIII.

LONDON, *Nov.* 1784.<sup>e</sup>

A master coach-maker applied to me in a case of a fore throat, for which he had been under the care of an apothecary six weeks, who had bled, blistered, purged, and loaded him with draughts, to use his own words, as much as would fill a barrel, but all to no purpose.

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On examining his throat, I found the uvula\* floughy and ulcerated; but before this, his voice was a sufficient criterion for me to be convinced of his being poxed. I could give him but small hopes of saving the uvula, the disease had made so great a progress, and large portions of it floughed away every now and then in the gargle. At this time a venus' crown broke out on his forehead, and his breath became so intolerably fetid, or stinking, that few could bear to sit any time in his chamber, and it really was a punishment to be near him.

I recommended him to drink as much of the Montpellier Apozem as he could with ease, in the course of the day, and he accordingly made it his common drink, both with his meals and when thirsty, by this mode he consumed three quarts a day, for ten days successively, when the malady was overtaken and checked. In another week his breath became perfectly sweet, but the uvula was entirely destroyed, without the least vestige of it remaining.

\* A portion of the palate of the mouth.



ing. The Apozem was continued for three weeks longer to a quart a day, which made six weeks from his first putting himself under my care, at the end of which his throat was perfectly healed, and the eruptions on his forehead entirely gone, his health re-established in every respect, except his voice, which was quite altered, in consequence of the unfortunate loss of the uvula.

## C A S E XIX.

LONDON, *Nov.* 1784.

A gentleman employed me to attend a favourite courtesan, who had a venereal complaint, and at the same time far advanced in her pregnancy; her symptoms were, an ulcer on the left tonsel, and several shankers below. She began to drink a quart of the Montpellier Apozem a-day, which was continued regularly for twenty-one days; afterwards a pint a-day for ten days more, at the end of which time, being in all thirty-one days, her complaints totally vanished; during this time no alteration was made either in her diet, or usual exercise. About a month after,  
she

he was brought to bed of as fine and healthy a looking boy, as I ever saw, quite free from spot or blemish, and has every appearance of thriving well.

# C A S E XX.

LONDON, *Nov.* 1784.

The master of a ship in the New-York trade, applied to me in a case of an enlargement of his right testicle, which had been coming, he informed me, for two years past; he had been under the influence of mercury for two months before he left America, but the testicle was not decreased in consequence.

His bladder had in a great measure lost its natural tone, and his urine came frequently away involuntary; he was fifty-two years of age, and had previous to this enjoyed a good state of health. The stream of his urine diminished, he said, for the last year remarkably, became forked, and at last so feeble that it dribbled away. There was not the least obstruction in his urinary passage, as appeared when I introduced the bougie, and  
the



the \*prostate gland felt found to the touch. The testicle was hard and insensible, and a fluctuation of water was conspicuous, rendering it a complicated complaint. When I represented to him the necessity of drawing off the water previous to any attempt towards a cure, he readily consented. When I introduced a small trochar, and drew off a pint of water, I was enabled to examine the testicle more minutely, and also to give him encouragement. He soon began to drink the Montpellier Apozem a quart a-day, from which he found so much benefit, that at his own request, it was increased to two a-day, which he continued forty-five days, at which period the bladder, &c. had acquired so much tone, as to enable him to make water in a full stream, and his testicle became soft and sensible, very nearly the size of the other. The absorbents appear now to do their duty, his health is re-established, and I have every probability of his continuing so.

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C A S E

\* A gland at the neck of the bladder, very subject to be diseased by this malady.

## C A S E XXI.

*London, 1784.*

A gentleman from Northumberland, that had been under the hands of a physician in town, famous for his knowledge in this disease, and had taken his leave as perfectly cured of a gonorrhœa ; about a month after the running returned with uncommon degrees of virulence, he thought it time to wait on his doctor again, who by his electuaries and turpentine (on which last, he said, he almost dieted) he became easy for a few months, and returned to the country, when the discharge again made its appearance. Being a married man, it made him very unhappy in his mind, and he kept corresponding with his physician for a considerable time, to little purpose ; till despairing of his gleet, a worthy friend of mine, a Member of the most Honorable House of Commons, did me the honor to recommend me to him. He took post-chaise and determined to come to London, travelling upwards of two hundred and sixty miles ; I advised the Alterative Apozem



Apozem in small dozes, together with the frequent use of the injection, he became in twenty-one days as perfectly well as ever he was in his life ; but still fearing relapses, which he had been used to, he desired to continue the course a little longer, which was done about a fortnight, and so confirmed his cure, that he continues now as free from that gleet, as if never afflicted with it.

## C A S E XXII.

*London, 1784.*

A gentleman, aged thirty-three, after a clap ill-managed by a country apothecary, who, it appeared, had actually salivated him, by the copious exhibition of mercury ; whether his design was to stimulate the glands to that degree or not, I will not pretend to say ; however, the case proved too much for him, and his patient was so relaxed, that it was above his abilities to stop his gleet, notwithstanding many months trial. When he applied to me, he had not only a most abundant gleety discharge from the urinary passage, but his semen discharged it-

self involuntarily when at stool ; he was likewise troubled with a clammy humor, that issued from his scrotum, and the inner parts of his thighs. This gentleman was perfectly restored to his pristine health, by taking the bark, and making frequent use of my injection, washing the parts outwardly affected, as well as throwing it into the urinary passage.

### C A S E XXIII.

*London, 1784.*

A gentleman having got rid of all symptoms attending a gonorrhœa, which he had been afflicted with, and had continued in good health in every respect, was afterwards perplexed with a whitish foulness, that gathered between the foreskin and the nut of the penis, which by detergents, astringents, and other applications, for near two years, he could not get rid off. It was generally, he observed, most troublesome to him spring and fall, and was of that nature, that if not daily washed, and kept clean, it would gather again ; and if not removed, would  
in



in time make angry, inflame, and exco-  
 riate both the nut and prepuce. This  
 put him under several apprehensions,  
 whether this might not proceed from his  
 former gonorrhœa, and having made ap-  
 plication to me, I told him my opinion,  
 and believed it to be more a sharpness of  
 the humors, than any venereal taint. In  
 this it turned out as I expected, for it was  
 only a gleet humor, of the same na-  
 ture as gleets that issue through the pas-  
 sage of the yard ; only the one oozes from  
 the glands, or nut of the penis, and the  
 other from the glands in the urethra, or  
 passage of the yard. I ordered him the  
 most gentle alteratives, and to wash the  
 parts, and inject very frequently with the  
 injection, which had the good effect I  
 expected, and never have occasion to  
 doubt of ; so that this gentleman was  
 perfectly cured, to his no small joy, after  
 an utter despair of ever being so, or ever  
 being capable of the marriage-bed, by  
 reason of the tenderness, as well as debi-  
 litation of those muscular and nervous  
 parts, necessarily employed in the act of  
 generation.

C A S E

## C A S E XXIV.

LONDON, 1784.

A gentleman of no small figure in this town, aged about forty-three years, was all on a sudden taken with pains in his limbs, which, his physicians said, was the rheumatism; they directed what they thought necessary, and in a great measure released him from his pains; upon which ensued scurvy spots (as was termed) or breaking out all over him, to remove which they sent him to Bath; where upon drinking the waters, all to appearance vanished, and the gentleman returned home, to his thinking, in a perfect state of health. A month or two after, his breaking out appeared again all over him; his face not being free made him very unhappy; upon applying again to one of his physicians, he told him, it was the scurvy, and prescribed for him accordingly, but it was to little purpose. The patient at length calling to mind an old venereal taint, he had a strong suspicion it proceeded from thence, though  
he



he had been married ten years, and his lady, to all appearance, as well as any one in the world. Upon this thought, and hearing me spoke of in company he was with at a coffee-house, the next day came to my house, and told me the whole story. Upon viewing his spots, I told him they were certainly venereal, and gave him the Montpellier Apozem, recommended for old venereal remains, which he took but for three weeks, and it perfectly cured him; it is now four months since, and I dare affirm, he will never have cause to complain of his old disaster. He was so well pleased, that by all means his lady must go into the same course, who, by his persuasion, (not knowing for what reason, or from whom) did so for about a fortnight, under the notion only of sweetening her blood, and by way of prevention, but truly for the sake also of being secured.

C A S E XXV.

*London, 1784.*

An artist in the city, having had connection with a foul woman, got a shanker  
on

on the nut of the penis, with which he ran to a surgeon, to have something to heal it, making no more of it than a scratch of a pin; the surgeon also called it a trifle, which could be skinned over in a few days; and in this he was as good as his word. The patient returned home well pleased, took the same freedom with his wife as usual, thinking all the danger over; a while after the man was afflicted with violent pains; <sup>at</sup> his wife complained of a sore eye, and all this was supposed to be from catching cold, as it is commonly called, and as such treated by the apothecary to the family; but he having no success, a physician was called, who termed it a Rheumatism in the man, and the King's Evil in the woman; but his efforts, for a considerable time, made but small abatement. At length, the husband suspecting the cause, and hearing of a celebrated diet drink that is published, between them they took thirty pounds worth of it, but to as little purpose as before. By this time, both their throats were full of ulcers; the man, in short, lost his uvula, and the bones of his palate and nose were affected; the woman  
lost



lost the sight of one eye, and indeed, they were both rendered miserable objects, at the time I was recommended to them.

I immediately prescribed the Montpellier Apozem, to the quantity of a quart a-day, to each, and made proper applications to the throat and nose of the man; the woman had also a tumor formed in her neck, which by the medicines was disscussed. In the space of thirty-six days they were both *retrieved*, the disease overtaken and destroyed, but not without Venus's scars, which can never be remedied, loss of substance not being to be repaired.

That the venereal infection is communicated frequently by the mouth, as well as by the parts of generation, is a certain fact, as instances of this has often occurred to me in the course of practice. We sometimes find a shanker attack the mouth of both young and old, without ever performing the venereal act; and this shanker will be attended with violent pain, and

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sympto-

symptomack fever, as happens not unfrequently with a shanker on the nut of the penis; this *mutual accord, consent, and sympathy* of the members of our body, there is no reason to doubt, is made by the commerce of the nerves,\* and their artificial positions and curious ramifications throughout the whole body, which is incomparable. To give a description of the nerves from their origin in the brain, the cerebellum, and spine, and so through every part of the body, would be tedious, and perhaps insipid to my readers; one instance may suffice for a sample of the whole, and that shall be, the great sympathy occasioned by the fifth pair of nerves, which I choose to instance, rather than the *par vagum*, or  
any

\* Galen well observes, that the nerves ministring to motion, are hard and firm, to be less subject to injury; but those ministring to sense are soft and tender; and that for this reason it is, that four of the five senses are lodged so near the brain, viz. partly to partake of the brain's softness and tenderness, and partly for the sake of the strong guard of the skull. *Vide Galen de us Part. Lib. 8. Cap. 5, 6.*



any other of the nerves ; because, although we may have less variety of noble contrivance, and art, than in that pair, yet we shall find enough for our purpose, and which may be dispatched in fewer words. Now this fifth conjugation of nerves is branched to the ball, the muscles, and glands of the eye ; to the ear, to the jaws, the gums, and teeth ; to the muscles of the lips,\* to the tonsils, the palate, the tongue, and the parts of the mouth ; to the præcordia ; also, in some measure, by inosculating with one of its nerves ; and lastly, to the muscles of the face, particularly the cheeks, whose sanguiferous vessels it twists about.

From hence it comes to pass, that there is a great consent and sympathy between all parts of the human body ; a gustable thing seen or smelt, excites the

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appetite

\* Doctor Willis gives the reason, *Cur mutua amasiorum oscula labiis impressa, tum præcordia, tum genitalia, afficiendo, amorem ac libidinem, tam facile irritant, to be from the consent of those parts, by the branches of the fifth pair. Vide Nerv. Deser. Cap. 22.*

appetite, and affects the glands, and parts of the mouth ; that a thing seen or heard that is shameful, affects the cheeks with modest blushes ; but, on the contrary, if it pleases and tickles the fancy, then it affects the breast and muscles of the mouth and face with laughter ; but a thing causing sadness and melancholy, doth accordingly exert itself upon the breast ; and demonstrates itself by causing the glands of the eyes to emit tears,\* and the muscles of the face to put on the sorrowful aspect of crying.

Hence also, that torvours look produced by anger and hatred, and that gay, and pleasing countenance accompanying love and hope.

In

\* Tears serve not only to moisten the eye, to clean and brighten the cornea, and to express grief, but also to alleviate it, according to that of Ulysses to Andromache, in *Seneca's Troas*. v. 762.

Tempus moramque dabimus, arbitrio tuo implere  
Lachrymis, fletus ærumnas levat,



In short, it is by means of this communication of the nerves, that whatever affects the soul, is demonstrated (whether we will or no) by a consentaneous disposition of the breast within, and suitable configuration of the muscles without. By which means (as Pliny saith†) the face of man alone is the index of sorrow, or joy, of pity, or severity.

† Plin. Nat. Hist. Lib. 11, C. 37.

## CASE XXV.

## C A S E XXV.

*London, July, 1785.*

L. S. Esq. A gentleman of singular worth, fortune, and fashion, had been afflicted for a considerable time with an ulcer at the neck of his bladder, and another near the orifice of the urinary passage; there was a considerable degree of stricture, and whenever he used frequent coition there was an ozing of matter from the urinary canal: being on a visit in town and having been a little intemperate, the ulcers discharged large quantities of matter, without occasioning any pain in the urinary passage; he was much alarmed, and employed Mr. Tomkins, Surgeon, to attend him for this complaint.

Mr. T. taking it for granted that it was a fresh clap he had caught, began to administer small quantities of mercury, and gave an injection to be thrown into the  
passage;



passage ; this was continued for between three and four weeks, but instead of gaining ground Mr. S. got worse and worse, and began to be much alarmed, more especially as he was now seized with cold night sweats, and violent irritation about his bladder, his rest entirely discomposed, with a total loss of appetite and symptomatic fever.

In this situation Mr. S. sent for me, having previously told Mr. Tomkins that he intended putting himself under my care. On the 29th day of July, I visited him in Buckingham-street, York-Buildings, where I found him in the condition already described ; he was reclining upon a couch, and really unable to get up to speak to me in an erect posture : at first, I was obliged to give him an opiate to compose him, as he was of an irritable temperament. My injection I advised to begin immediately, and the next day he commenced the extract, both of which agreed with him perfectly well.

It

It is unnecessary to give the detail during my attendance on this gentleman, let it suffice to say that he mended daily under my care ; on the 20th of August he was perfectly freed from every symptom, and on the 24th he went to Southampton to spend the summer. On the 5th of December following, he did me the favour to call on me, previous to his going to his home in the country, and I was happy to hear that he has continued in perfect health ever since, being freed from all his complaints : he is so obliging as to permit me to give a reference to any gentleman requesting it.

# C A S E XXVI.

*London, Sept. 1785.*

SAMUEL C——K, Esq. was recommended to consult me, by Thomas Sandford, Esq. of Ingatestone, Essex ; this gentleman had been afflicted with an ulcer near the neck of his bladder for near  
four



four years ; there was a constant discharge, more or less, of matter, which issued from it through the urinary canal, whenever he happened to drink hard, or live intemperate ; the neck of his bladder was seized with inflammation, and a stoppage of urine was generally the consequence, so that his life was three or four times put to the hazard, and his urine during this time, was always obliged to be drawn off by a catheter, or the artificial tube, made for that purpose. This was an alarming situation to be in, and his mind was made very unhappy. In September 1785, he consulted me in this unfortunate situation, which I found was entirely occasioned from an ill-cured clap : he was very much emaciated, with a very fallow countenance, his stomach impaired and relaxed to an amazing degree ; he had been under the care of all the country practitioners in his neighbourhood, as well as some of the Doctors of this metropolis, but in vain, for notwithstanding the bougies and various internal medicines, his symptoms still continued more or less

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violent.

violent. On the 10th day of the last mentioned month, he commenced taking the Montpellier extract, and began the use of the vegetable injection, which he had not used a week till he found himself quite a different man; the irritation about the bladder abated, and the ulcer discharged a milder matter, the night sweats, which he was subject to, entirely left him, and his rest became much more composed; in a word, on the 29th of November following, he did me the favour to inform me by letter, that he found himself restored to perfect health, being entirely freed from all those alarming and dangerous symptoms; and he is so obliging as to permit me to give a reference to any gentleman that may require it.

C A S E



## C A S E XXVII.

*London, September, 1785.*

J. B. W. Esq. of Woolwich, a young gentleman about twenty-three years of age, had been afflicted with the *tabes dorsales*, or a seminal weakness, for near three years; it had reduced him to a very weak state, and had brought on various other disagreeable symptoms in consequence.

On the 10th of September he applied to me, though with little expectations on his part of a cure; having been already under the care of some of the profession, eminent for their abilities. The remedy which I ordered him, agreed with him so well that in the space of a fortnight he was happy to inform me that he had found great benefit. He attended me regularly in town, every two or three days after the first week, during which he remained in my neighbourhood.

I shall not take up any more of my reader's time in this case, but briefly inform him, that by the 28th of November he was restored to perfect health, acquiring his natural complexion, and had got into flesh, which before was fallow and emaciated. I am permitted to give a reference whenever called upon by a gentleman,

APPENDIX,



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## A P P E N D I X.

**P**ARTICULAR Directions for taking the Montpellier Extract will be given along with it, but it will also be necessary for the patient to observe the following general rules. The Extract usually keeps the body gently open, procuring two motions each day, but this effect will vary according to the state of the bowels, and strength of the patient's constitution, therefore in very costive habits, it may be necessary occasionally to increase the quantity.

It being soft, balmy and restorative, it agrees with every stomach, and requires  
no

no confinement; the patient may use moderate exercise, and go abroad in his usual manner, but ought to attend to the following regimen. He should avoid acids, and things salt or high seasoned; fat meats, hogs flesh, and four vegetables are at this time prejudicial; dry food, white meats roasted, such as veal, rabbits, fowls, &c. are preferable. He should abstain from the immoderate use of liquors, especially those of the spirituous kind; and, at meals, drink sparingly of any of the light wines diluted with water.

Such was the method observed in administering this medicine at Paris and Montpellier, by the ingenious Monsieur Plank and Monsieur Petit, where it succeeded in the most deplorable cases of the venereal disease, and other chronic disorders, arising from impure humours or a distempered blood, after all other medicines had proved ineffectual,

The venereal poison is generally imagined to be of an acid, corrosive, and fixed nature,



nature, but this cannot be affirmed with certainty, that these qualities actually reside in it, because we can only judge of the nature of this poison by the effects it produces.

I presume it will evidently appear, from a general review of the number of authors who have written on this disease, that it is not attended with those malignant and dreadful symptoms, as at its first introduction into Europe. This I think may be justly attributed to the progress that has been made in the knowledge and proper method of its cure ; by which the activity of the virus being generally lessened, the disease is not communicated with that degree of virulence ; but notwithstanding its symptoms do not make that rapid and fatal progress, they did a century ago, yet they are fully sufficient to curtail life by slow but sure degrees.

The nature of venereal poison being such as to communicate acrimony, and dispose the blood to a viscid or ropy state,

state, the cure will be soonest brought about by such things as blunt the acrimony, thin the blood, and evacuate the offending matter by perspiration, urine, and stool.

The venereal poison is deemed corrosive from the strong tendency observed in venereal ulcers to spread and eat deeper, the blood therefore being altered from its sound state, by the acrimony of this poison, all the fluids separated from it will become vitiated and unfit for the purposes of life; the solids will not only be robbed of their due supply of nourishment, but also suffer from the sharpness of the juices, irritating, and at last corroding the vessels in which they circulate.

By the saline deterging quality of the Montpellier Apozem, it dissolves the coagulated lymph, and powerfully opens the obstructed glands; whilst by its soft balsamic parts, it becomes friendly to the constitution, defending the solids, and  
sheathing



sheathing the acrimony of the sharp juices, which fret and irritate their tender fibres. This medicine being possessed of all the above properties, is directly suited to answer every intention of cure; being composed of saline penetrating subtle parts, with a soft restorative balsam, readily mixing with the animal fluids, and with them easily conveyed to every part of the body; it occasions no tumult in the blood, but goes the whole length of the circulation, and searching to the extremities of the finest strainers, subdues and evacuates the venereal poison, or other offending humours. In this manner the Montpelier Apozem purifies the blood, and gradually changes it from a distempered to a sound state. Thus it effects a radical cure without disordering the patient, or leaving him in that languid, death-like condition, which unavoidably follows a course of mercurials. This remedy becomes highly restorative, by giving balsam to the vital fluid, and for the same account it will repair injuries done to the constitution, by the baneful mineral

P mercury.

mercury. I have known many get into flesh during its use, who before were thin and emaciated, as in Cases fourth and tenth.

I would from long practice and experience recommend this medicine, in constitutions where the patient is inclined to inward decay, for such is a very improper subject for to use mercury; even after salivation has proved in vain, and left the sufferer hectic or consumptive, or any eruptions on the skin, head-ach, or wandering pains.

Those whose strength is impaired by the bane of youthful vigour (Self P——) will find effectual and permanent relief from this remedy, there are many compounds sold in this Metropolis, commonly called restoratives, which are generally prepared with Spanish flies, or such heating stimulating ingredients, which can only produce a temporary effect, by stimulating the urinary passage, and will consequently leave the afflicted more debilitated



debilitated afterwards, by laying an additional strength on parts which were much too weak before.

No medicine, properly speaking, can be considered truly restorative, but such as has a power to soften the sharp thin blood, and restore that fine balmy lymph, which nourishes the body, and invigorates the whole vital flame.

Imbecility in men, and barrenness in women, may be often removed by the Montpellier remedy, as I have had occasion to observe in several instances. This prolific effect in the former was probably brought about by its rendering the blood richer and more balmy, and by which a greater quantity of semen was secreted; and in the latter by repairing the female constitution, and restoring the menses to their natural quantity, and regular periods, without both which women do not usually become pregnant.

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I have lately had some female patients, who from a bad state of the blood, and irregularities peculiar to their sex, were debilitated and relaxed, (a remarkable instance of this occurred in the case of Mrs. D. of Dean-street, Soho) she had been afflicted for years with the fluor albus, and she might with propriety be said to have remained barren, or being with child, constantly miscarried about the fourth month. April 20th, being then pregnant, and in this languishing condition, having long laboured under ill health, and was of a delicate frame and a valetudinary habit of body. She had at this time also a troublesome cough, and her spittle was now and then tinged with blood: her physician had ordered repeated bleeding, and kept her on low diet, indeed she was reduced to the last extreme of weakness, and she began to take the Apozem with so much relief, that her strength, spirits, and appetite increased every day, and she was happily delivered at her full time of a strong male child ;



child : this lady has been so kind as to allow me the liberty of making a reference.

In particular cases of nervous disorders arising from a venereal taint, scrophulous or scorbutic humours, the use of this medicine will be found equally salutary, by eradicating the seeds of those latent diseases, for so long as they remain in the blood, and poison the sanguineous fluid, or that vital source from which all the parts of the body are supplied with nourishment, so constant will the nervous system remain weak, languid, and infirm.

Doctor Morton, a very celebrated physician, in his Book upon Consumptions, and I am of opinion the best that ever was written on that subject, distinguishes this fatal malady into two kinds, viz. the original and the symptomatic consumptions, the first, he says, arises from some defect in the natural structure of the body, where medicines can do but little service ;

service; the last from the effect of other distempers, which particular species of consumption can only be cured when those are taken away. Of this kind are the venereal consumption, the scrophulous consumption, and the scorbutic consumption, where the blood is tainted with the leven of these diseases. Stupor and giddiness of the head, confusion of ideas, and loss of memory, attended with sluggishness, low spirits, and slow fever, often proceed from the venereal poison; sometimes from an immoderate use of mercury, or from a scrophulous or scorbutic cause, which all rob the blood of its nourishing balsam, and risking the danger of a consumption.

Every species of consumption, arising from those causes, this medicine will relieve or cure when duly administered, for being constantly and for a considerable time admitted into the blood, it will by degrees correct its morbid quality, and by its active attenuating salt, dissolved in a soft balmy liquor, will so dilute and  
lessen



lessen the cohesion of the animal fluids, that the venereal poison, scorbutic or scrophulous acrimony, will be readily separated from the sound juices, and washed out of the body by the several discharges of perspiration, urine, and stool.

Whoever mistrusts the efficacy of this remedy, from its want of that ponderous quality with which mercury and other minerals are endued, will please to attend to a very common experiment, which will entirely overthrow that objection; for instance, the bones of animals, which have for some time eaten their food with a mixture of madder root, do by such means acquire a very florid red colour, even in their most solid compact parts; this circumstance is mentioned particularly by that deservedly great man, and first Anatomist of the age, professor Monro, of Edinburgh, who speaking of the vessels of the bones, relates the following circumstance:

“ The

“ The clearest demonstration of the in-  
 “ timate distribution of these small arte-  
 “ ries, is to observe the effects of such  
 “ a tinging substance, as can retain its  
 “ colour when swallowed, digested  
 “ and mixed with the blood of any liv-  
 “ ing animal ; and at the same time has  
 “ particles small enough to be convey-  
 “ ed into the vessels of the bones, such  
 “ is *Rubia Tinctorum*, Madder Root : \*  
 “ for we see the gradual advances that  
 “ this tincture makes from the peri-  
 “ osteum into the more internal parts  
 “ of the bones ; and how universally the  
 “ distribution of liquors is made, the  
 “ whole bony substance being tinged.”

From hence it will appear evident that  
 all the parts of the body, even the very  
 bones, abound with vessels infinitely small,  
 which admit of circulation, for human  
 bones, as well as those of any other ani-  
 mal,

\* *Philos. Transf.* No. 442, Art. 8. No. 443, Art.  
 2. No. 457, Art. 4. *Memb. de Acad. des Sciences*,  
 1739.



mal would be dyed red in the same manner, provided madder was to be mixed with our food, as they are pervious to the subtle particles of medicine, which act not at all by their gravity, but rather by a specific quality, which with the animal fluids is constantly propelled by the heart, and by degrees transmitted to the affected part, so that let the disease be ever so inveterate, and the patient infected even to the bones, as in Cases fourth and twenty-fifth, provided he will conform to some rules, and continue the Apozem for a sufficient time, he may in the end, with certainty, depend upon an absolute cure.

Mercurials, when judiciously given, may cure the pox in robust habits, yet there are many constitutions which have suffered so much, from the long continuance of the disease, and improper use of this mineral, that they are unable any longer to withstand the force of severe remedies, and would unavoidably sink under a salivation, which, with a long

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course

course of abstinence, during the progress of it, would bring on such a waste of body, as never to be repaired ; so that many patients, though perhaps cured of the disease, would languish out their days, and and at last die of a consumption. This I have often seen with much concern, especially in delicate constitutions.

Almost every person, from his own experience, may know the inconvenience attending a simple sprain in any part of the body, and how long it is before the affected part regains its former strength; the same cause, though in a less degree, will also account for the excessive weakness that so often follows the immoderate use of mercury ; for in both cases the nature of the injury is the same, viz. the application of a greater force to the solids than their natural structure can bear ; only in the first, the effect is instantaneously produced in a particular part, with the sense of pain ; but in the last is universal, brought about by degrees so slow  
and



and insensible, as not to give such manifest marks of approaching danger.

Indigestion and dejection of spirits, are likewise disorders more immediately arising from relaxation than any other cause; as is evident, by the means which relieve them; for whatever braces the fibres, and increases muscular motion, seldom fails of restoring the appetite and spirits.

It very rarely happens, that a new method of cure in any disease gives universal satisfaction, for there never are wanting some men of so invidious a turn of mind, that their principal pleasure consists in decrying the productions of others, as if what they strip their neighbours of, was to be added to their own characters.

Old venereal complaints, when combined with scorbutic or scrophula, causes a lentor in the capillary blood vessels, and as this fizy blood is gradually pushed forwards, by the force of the circulation into the veins, it there becomes putrid,

and impregnates the rest of the mass with a malignant quality, which is communicated both to the internal and external parts of the body.

Confirmed poxes I call all those which are accompanied with some sort of poison : now of whatever nature this happens to be, it not only infects and corrupts the blood, but more particularly seizes on the subtle nervous liquor, which is called the animal spirits ; hence it is, that these poxes act with greater rapidity and violence, and are much more difficult to cure than the other sorts.

But there is one circumstance common to all poxes, that Nature endeavours to conquer the disease by some struggle or other, and by which notice is given that the enemy is at hand, as Nature wishes always to throw forth from the body whatever is prejudicial to life.

Now, whereas the word Nature is made use of by physicians in the cure of all diseases,



seases, I will here, once for all, plainly declare my sentiments of what we ought to understand by that word. That there is something within us that perceives, thinks, and reasons, is manifest beyond contradiction ; and yet the nature of that something cannot be fully and perfectly comprehended in this life. Wherefore I shall resign the disquisition of this point to those who while they know too little of, and care less for things falling under their senses, take great pleasure of investigating those things which human reason is incapable of conceiving. However, thus far the soundest philosophers agree concerning it, that it is somewhat incorporeal.

For how can sluggish matter, which is of itself void of all motion, be the source and first cause of thought, the most excellent of all motions ? Wherefore, it is evident sufficiently, that this first mover within us is a spirit of some kind or other, entirely different and separable from terrestrial

restrial matter, and yet most intimately united with our body.

To me it seems probable, that this active principle is not of the same sort in all; that the all-wise Creator has endowed man with one sort, and brutes with another; that the former so far partakes of a divine nature, as to be able to exist and think after its separation from the body; but that the latter is of such an inferior order, as to perish with the body. The former was by the ancients called *Ani-mus*, and the latter *Anima*; \* and they believed that they were both engendered in our species; but this I take to be an erroneous position; for as their *anima* suffices for the functions of life in brutes, so our *animus* stands not in need of such an assistant. Now this matter, if I am not mistaken, stands thus: such is the composition of our fabrick, that when any thing pernicious has got footing within  
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\* *Mundi principio indulsit communis conditor illis  
Tantam animam, nobis animum quoque.*



the body, the governing mind gives such an impulse to those instruments of motion, the animal spirits, as to raise those commotions in the blood and humours, which may relieve the whole frame from the danger in which it is involved. Indeed those very motions which are commonly called natural and vital, as those of the heart, lungs, and intestines, which persevere through the whole course of life, even when the will cannot be concerned in them; as they have their beginning from the mind, so they are perpetually under its direction. I could easily bring many arguments in confirmation of these sentiments, but they would be superfluous in this place; besides, I am happily anticipated by the late learned Dr. Porterfield, a fellow of the Royal College of Edinburgh, in his curious dissertation on this subject.

From philosophy I return to medicine. The sagacious Dr. Sydenham was so far of this opinion, as to assert, that a disease is nothing else but an effort of nature

ture to throw off the morbid matter, for the health of the patient. \* And Hippocrates, in his usual manner, laconically expressed the same thing thus: Nature is the curer of diseases. Now this I have observed more particularly in pestilential diseases, in which the violence of the distemper breaks forth on the skin in the form of pustules, carbuncles, and buboes, all which are the very venom of the disease, as the common experiment of giving the small pox by inoculation plainly demonstrates.

That malignity appears in such various forms, according to the different nature of the infection, that its characteristic signs have given various appellations to the lues venerea; it is always a difficult task, and sometimes a needless one to investigate the true causes of things; but as my reader may perhaps expect, that I should account for the above mentioned differences

\* Vid. Observation Medic. circa morborum accretorum Historiam, at the beginning.



differences in this disease, I shall say, that the principal reasons of those differences which have occurred to me upon mature consideration, are the almost infinite variety of temperaments in various individuals; for such is the power of temperaments of body, that they descend to those of the same blood, by a sort of hereditary right; whence some diseases are found to be familiar and fatal to certain families.

While the nerves of the animal machine continue justly modulated or braced, according to the regular standard of Nature, the mind will perceive itself perfectly at ease, and free from all manner of pain and uneasiness.

But some perhaps may ask, how shall we know when this animal machine is exactly braced and modulated, agreeable to the exact standard of *Nature's laws*? and what are the mechanical powers on which that modulation depends? to which I answer, that the mind perceiving itself perfectly

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fectly at ease, will be the clearest indication, that the several undulating fibres are acceding nearest to the balance of Nature; for it is impossible that any organ of the reasoning instrument can be out of tune, but that the mind will perceive it, so that upon those grounds we have a standard to go by, or a director to inform us, whenever this system of matter and motion is any way affected, and not only so, but this thinking being is capable of pointing out the very part it perceives primarily affected, which still gives us the greatest assurance, that a disease subsists in the body.

Indeed the harmony of the human fabric is so surprizingly contrived, that the mind and body shall equally suffer under all the various circumstances of life; so that if the bodily organs be faint, weary, or any ways disconcerted in their springs, the mind perceives their affection and is affected with the change. Now the question is, whether the means made use of for the recovery of the patient labouring under



under any disease, acts upon the body or mind ? and from all observations, it most certainly appears to act upon the bodily organs, for, by raising the contraction of the arteries, we at the same time increase the circulation of the blood, raise the beating of the pulse, the motion of the heart, and quicken the secretion of the animal fluids, whereby all the senses are revived, the faculties and the soul itself cleared by their fine, soft, undulating motions, that the fibres, thus braced or assisted, strike upon the passions.

Indeed the kind and beneficent author of our nature has implanted in every human individual a principle of reason, whereby he might discover the laws of Nature, as far as they concern his conduct of life; and as diseases are one of the greatest evils he can guard against, so is it the business of the physician to discover truly and certainly, on what causes they are grounded, what matter they consist of, the principal organs in which they are lodged, and how they may safely

be eradicated without the least detriment to the body; and whatever has hitherto been accounted the essential definition of a physician, I will venture to speak it in one word, that he is best deserving of that character, who best knows how to cure diseases, and remove the obstructions that embarrass and overturn the motions of the animal oeconomy.

It is impossible that he can know absolutely and properly how to cure a disease unless he understands their symptoms, causes, the principles on which they depend; the progress they make, and the alterations and changes they infer upon the constitution of animal bodies; and as all the alterations, symptoms, and phænomena, have their dependence entirely on the changes that happen in those external, obvious, sensible qualities of heat, cold, dry and moisture, are dependent on the motions of the solids and fluids, and alterable from their different degrees of impulse; so it follows that all diseases must necessarily arise from the solids



lids and fluids being rendered in their motions, above or beneath the balance of Nature; so in like manner will the different degrees of diseases always be attended with different degrees of these motions, which will infer different changes in these external obvious sensible qualities, in proportion as the motions are increased or remitted; so will it follow that the peculiar symptoms indicating the height or severity of any disease, will be discoverable from the intenseness of their external, obvious, sensible qualities; hence the contorsions that often involuntarily affect the muscles of the countenance in divers nervous diseases. When it happens to fall out that these external obvious sensible qualities should retreat inwardly upon the habit; even here the pulse will discover that retreat, for it is impossible that the qualities of heat, cold, &c. can retreat, but that the motion will accompany them, or that the motions can retreat, unless there be obstructions formed inwardly upon the habit: or that obstructions

structions can be formed upon any of the internal organs, but that the beating of the heart must be enforced; or that the beating of the heart can be enforced, without the variation of the pulse, because the beating of the pulse has an immediate dependence upon the artery that goes to the heart; so that in this very case, which seems most remote from an intuitive knowledge, the pulse will inform us not only of this retreat, but of the degrees of motion that attend it. Thus it appears that we have the surest grounds to go upon, even in the most perplexing cases, and even when the external habit changes its temperature.

These external, obvious, visible, or sensible qualities of heat, cold, &c. therefore are of the same consequence to a physician, that the sea chart or compass is to the mariner, and as the latter informs the sailor of the course he is to steer, so the former directs the physician to clearest indications, not only to discover



discover the most abstruse causes, but also to administer a cure in the most stubborn and perplexing diseases.

And thus we arrive at the highest degree of certainty, in judging of the internal motions, and their different degrees, from the external, obvious, sensible qualities; for their qualities always depend on the internal motions, and are certain indications to what height and degree these inward motions arrive.

Human understanding indeed may be mistaken in judging of objects, not properly applied to their view, or placed in an improper medium, or at too great a distance; but what every one in health feels and sees, he certainly knows to be a perception; and if I see and feel the habit of the body hot and dry, it is as evident a demonstration to me as any mathematical problem whatever, that it is endued with those properties I call hot and dry; and consequently that the internal

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nal motions of the solids are forcibly impressed on the fluids, the secretions of the juices accelerated, and the blood greatly divided, which are all properties absolutely necessary to make the habit hot and dry.

These changes in the external, sensible qualities, upon a change in the internal motions of animal bodies, therefore, give us an intuitive knowledge of the nature, cause, and symptoms of diseases ; which, as Mr. Locke very well observes, is the highest kind of evidence our state and condition is capable of ; and which arises from our perceptions themselves ; than which we cannot have any greater certainty, that things are what they are.

The criterion, therefore, by which we judge, when all the motions of the animal fibres are regular, that is when the body is in a state of perfect health, is discoverable from the natural power  
of



of our perception, which depends on the natural course of the humours, on the natural secretions of the juices, and on the natural contractions of the solids; for it is impossible that any particular secretion can be vitiated, but that there will be pain and uneasiness, or that there can be pain or uneasiness in any organ, but that the mind will perceive it. This perception arises from the necessary connexion, consent, and agreement, that all those fine springs and fibres, that compose the animal machine, hath with the mind and its faculties.

The perception of pain is an idea quite different from the perception of danger; the former always arises from real causes, and is a certain perception in the mind, depending on the internal symptoms of the bodily organs; but the knowledge of danger is to be calculated from the circumstances of the parts affected, that depend on a chain of consequences out of the reach of the

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patient

patient to comprehend, so that in all cases of diseases we ought to distinguish between the perceptions and the knowledge that accompany those perceptions. The perceptions are always real apprehensions, from an intuitive view that the mind has of the degrees of pain and uneasiness that at any time affect it, through an irregular impression of the corporeal organs ; he, therefore, may certainly perceive his pains and uneasinesses to be what they are, without perceiving the danger that attends those impressions, and which has nothing to do with those degrees of perception. In a word, every perception of pain is a certain indication that the body is affected ; but every consequence drawn from the degrees of that perception, is no certain indication of danger, but must be judged of from the visible circumstances of the parts affected, and from the known phaenomena incident to affect the several parts under this disease.

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I am not at all surprized at the frequent complaints we hear abroad, of many people losing their sight and hearing, when some gentlemen are so ready to resolve the defects of those noble organs into whim and fancy, by which means their disorders are suffered to gain ground, and affect the patient with an irrecoverable blindness and deafness.

These motes which now and then affect the eyes of some people, are nothing less than corpuscles of the fluids attracting each other, which, as they pass before the retina, darken the atmosphere in certain points; which points appear to the patient as if they were real motes.

The cause of these phænomena arises from the crystalline humour being too grossly secreted, which demands the immediate application of some proper remedy, that may divide, attenuate, and resolve the obstructions of those fibres that secrete this humour; and for this

purpose the Montpellier diet drink is a sovereign remedy.

I have known some gentlemen in treating their patients, labouring under pains of the back, limbs, and sides, and various other symptoms, expressed by the sufferers ; I say, when their physicians perceived the disease untractable, and not easily yielding to the force of medicines ; are very ready to charge it upon spleen and vapours, or what is generally termed hypochondriac, or, according to their acceptance of these words, whim and fancy ; and having been rallied out of a real disease by an ignorant pretender, fell a sacrifice in consequence, changing one world for another, a change that very few of us are willing to make, so long as we can conveniently reside in this.

From the foregoing arguments and reasonings upon this subject, it clearly appears, that to be in health, and perceive it is the same thing ; and that it is impossible that any man can be in health  
and



and not perceive it, and that there is a necessary inseparable connexion between the existence of health, and the perception of that existence; from which whoever deviates, has a demonstration as evident as the nature of the thing will admit, that his constitution is starting from its natural standard.

Indeed I shall not deny, as I have already observed, but that the mind may sometimes be mistaken, in judging of the degrees as well as danger of a disease; but still the cause of that wrong judgment must arise from some disaffection in the glands of the brain, the immediate instrument of regular thinking; still there must be some real disorder in the bodily organs, some real foundation for complaint, still the springs, wheels, and pullies of the constitution, must by some means or other be disconcerted, or else the mind can never receive the impression of a disease.

